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VOP REPORTS CLOSURE OF PLO OFFICES IN WESTERN TRIPOLI

NC241836 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 24 Dec 79 NC

[Text] The Libyan regime's authorities closed the PLO office in western Tripoli this morning.

Al-Qadhdhafi's intelligence raided the PLO office and confiscated everything in it, including the communications set. Al-Qadhdhafi's intelligence then sealed the office with red wax.

More on Libyan Actions

NC270930 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 27 Dec 79 NC

[Text] Yesterday, Libyan intelligence arrested 30 Palestinian students at Western Tripoli University. At the same time, Libyan intelligence arrested an additional 30 students at the Benghazi University. Al-Qadhdhafi's intelligence also withdrew the passports of 50 Palestinian students in Tripoli and cancelled their resident visas. The Libyan authorities are currently deporting these students to an unknown destination.

Also yesterday, the Libyan security authorities closed down the Fatah bureau in Benghazi. The bureau has now been taken over by the Al-Qadhdhafi government. Meanwhile, Libyan security organs are raiding Palestinian homes in and around Tripoli and threatening the Palestinian residents with expulsion from Libya if it transpires that they have connections with Fatah.

The PLO offices in Tripoli and Benghazi remain closed and are being watched constantly.

Al-Qadhdhafi is meanwhile proceeding with the farce of his popular committees which now number 21. These Al-Qadhdhafian committees are the front of Al-Qadhdhafi's campaign against the PLO and Fatah.

Observers in Tripoli say that Libyan and Palestinian citizens are reacting very coldly to Al-Qadhdhafi's anti-PLO/Fatah campaign since Fatah enjoys the deep respect of the fraternal Libyan people. The citizens have made a mockery of Al-Qadhdhafi's measures by completely rejecting them in spite of widespread efforts by Libyan security and intelligence organs to provide popular support for this campaign. A correspondent, who wished to remain unidentified so as not to be prevented from entering Libya, says that he attended ceremonies marking the establishment of a Palestinian popular committee in a certain area. He had noticed that the rally was attended mostly by Libyan security and intelligence organs, who kept watch over each other inside and outside the court in which the ceremonies were taking place. The correspondent also noticed that the students were indifferent to the ceremonies and when the correspondent stepped out into the corridor, he noticed smiles of mockery on the students' faces.

The correspondent adds that the members of the aforementioned committee were not Palestinians but of the Libyan security organs--whose strange behavior tipped off the correspondent to their real identity. Thus, they did not seem to be students and did not show the zeal usually shown by students. The correspondent says that a Libyan writer told him in Tripoli that the Libyans are very displeased with the closure of the PLO offices and that they are privately saying that Al-Qadhdhafi has closed the PLO offices to mollify Washington after the incident of burning the embassy in Tripoli.

People in Tripoli are also asking: How can Al-Qadhdhafi claim that he recognizes the PLO as the sole legal representative of the Palestinian people while at the same time he is proclaiming the establishment of an anti-PLO committee day in and day out? People in Tripoli are reacting sarcastically to Al-Qadhdhafi's claims that the PLO offices were not molested because they can see for themselves how the PLO offices are sealed with red wax and surrounded by security and intelligence organs; meanwhile Al-Qadhdhafi's information media are asserting that the Libyan and Palestinian revolutions are strategically related. The mockery of the citizens also lies in the fact that while the Libyan media are talking about the missions of the struggle and Al-Qadhdhafi's sincerity toward the Palestinian people and its armed revolution, Libyan intelligence is threatening the Palestinians, expelling them, and making dark hints about cutting off their incomes.

PLO Spokesman on Mediation Efforts

JN212151 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 21 Dec 79 JN

[Text] Damascus--Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, PLO Executive Committee official spokesman, has stated the following:

In appreciation of the critical circumstances of the Arab nation; proceeding from the eagerness of the components of the Arab steadfastness to confront the imperialist and Zionist challenges, foremost of which are the Camp David schemes and the self-rule plot; in assertion of our faith in the revolutionary traditions and experiments of our Palestinian people, their valiant struggle and heroic steadfastness; in appreciation of the pan-Arab effort being exerted by struggler President Hafiz al-Asad to boost the struggle of the Palestinian revolution under the PLO and its institutions and struggling and representative bodies, and President al-Asad's constant eagerness to protect the accomplishments of the Palestinian revolution and to end all causes and signs of conflict among the comrades in one trench in confronting the main contradictions threatening our Arab nation and its principal issue, the issue of Palestine; out of eagerness to continue the struggling ties between the PLO and its leadership on the one hand and fraternal Libya and its leadership on the other--ties which emerged as a result of the joint struggle against imperialism and Zionism and their schemes aimed against our cause and the unity of our people and their representation and which are aimed at entrenching the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian and Arab land, I declare on behalf of the PLO Executive Committee our response to and appreciation of the strong efforts exerted by struggler President Brother Hafiz al-Asad to end the transient dispute and its causes.

We have told his excellency that we approve of the steps he is taking to restore the situation and the fraternal relations to their former state.

VOL: LIBYAN ENVOY IN BEIRUT ON SECRET MISSION

NC241550 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1515 GMT 24 Dec 79 NC

[Text] A Libyan envoy arrived in Beirut this morning on a secret mission and met with several members of Palestinian organizations opposed to the Fatah organization. It is believed that the visit is connected with the development of the relations and dispute between Libya and the PLO.

'ARAFAT: THERE CAN BE NO PEACE WITHOUT PALESTINIAN RIGHTS

NC261806 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1635 GMT 26 Dec 79 NC

[Report on a speech delivered by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat at the celebrations marking the 11th anniversary of the Palestinian Red Crescent, the opening of a new Red Crescent children's nursery and graduation of a new group of nurses on 26 December--read by announcer]

[Excerpts] Brother Abu 'Ammar said: Our revolution extends worldwide. It is no coincidence that Dr 'Abd al-Ghani Abu Raqabah was martyred in Africa and Hasan Matar in Nicaragua and some of our pilots fell in Lake Victoria. Our revolution's international dimension shows its cultural significance.

Abu 'Ammar added: We are aware of the fierce war being launched against us. I say that revolutions are measured by their friends. We have many friends in Africa, Latin America, the nonalined states, and the whole world. A revolution is also measured by the size of its enemies. Brother Abu 'Ammar stressed that the Palestinian revolution represents a strategic turning point in this area. This is the reason for the fierceness of the battle.

Brother Abu 'Ammar said: No one can say goodbye to the Palestinian revolution, as Brzezinski has done. This giant revolution, which has struck roots in this area, will achieve victory. There can be no peace, stability, or security in this area without the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people. Let Carter send F-16's and even F-80's. Welcome. We will be watching.

Brother Abu 'Ammar added: No one cay buy the revolution. They may buy consciences, beer merchants, and (?Billy) Carter. But the dwarfs cannot buy a single revolutionary in the Palestinian revolution. Brother Abu 'Ammar said: I say to the Camp David trio: You cannot impose your alliance on the area, regardless of how many agents you move. The Palestinian revolution defies Carter, Begin, As-Sadat and all the agents in the area--small or big.

Brother Abu 'Ammar said: This revolution is protracted. In the midst of this fierce war I say: The revolution threatens and cannot be threatened. It is a turning point in our Arab area. Our blood is an unceasing waterfall. This blood is not oil or water. It is not oil to be provided under contracts to U.S. imperialism and returned to us in the form of napalm. It is not water that As-Sadat can sell to Israel.

Brother Abu 'Ammar assed: The history of the Palestinian revolution is made of light and fire. It has become a legend. I see victory as clearly as I see you today. I am sure that our people will also see it.

FRG DELEGATION MEETS PLO, LEBANESE LEADERS

LD211632 Hamburg DPA in German 1010 GMT 21 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Beirut--According to a PLO spokesman, a delegation from the German-Arab society led by SPD lower house Deputy Lenelotte von Bothmer met the head of the PLO, Yasir 'Arafat, in Beirut on Thursday evening. No announcement has been made by the delegation itself. A PLO spokesman said, however, on Friday that the talks have served to deepen relations between "the Palestinian revolution and the people of West Germany." The delegation was informed about the activities of the revolution "in the service of the Palestinian people."

The delegation, which arrived in Beirut last Saturday, also had a meeting with the head of the PLO Political Bureau, Faruq Qaddumi, and visited several PLO institutions. It was also received by Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis, Prime Minister Salim al-Huss, and president of parliament Kamal Asad. They briefed the delegation on the Lebanese Government's position concerning the solution of the conflict in southern Lebanon. The government has thus far tried in vain to persuade the PLO to withdraw from the border region.

Apart from Frau von Bothmer, the delegation consists of Dieter Schinzel, SPD member of the European Parliament, and Harald (Schock), secretary-general of the German-Arab society.

SPD DEPUTY: 'ARAFAT WOULD RECOGNIZE SECURE ISRAELI BORDERS

LD231146 Hamburg DPA in German 1058 GMT 23 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Bonn--SPD Bundestag Deputy Lenelotte von Bothmer, during a 1-week fact-finding trip to Lisbon, gained the impression that PLO chief Yasir 'Arafat recognizes the Israelis' right to live within secure borders. Frau Bothmer said on Deutschlandfunk on Sunday that after a 2-hour talk with 'Arafat she believes that he is assessing the situation in the Middle East realistically and is interested in peace. She advocated the undertaking of efforts to find, within the framework of the EC, a positive attitude toward the Palestinians' right to self-determination and their right "to realize somewhere their own nationality."

Deutschlandfunk said on the same program that 'Arafat said the Middle East is close to an "explosion," that one can also talk of a real danger of war. The fact that the Israelis, with an inflation rate of 110 percent, are at present in a very difficult situation could contribute to them starting a "military adventure." In order to come closer to a peaceful solution during 1980, courageous steps are required, by Europeans too. The objective is to take into account the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

PNC CHAIRMAN MEETS WITH USSR'S VASILIY KUZNETSOV

JN212029 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2000 GMT 21 Dec 79 JN

[Text] Moscow, 21 Dec--Palestine National Council Chairman Khalid al-Fahum met here tonight with Vasiliy Kuznetsov, first deputy chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet. Al-Fahum and Kuznetsov discussed the situation in the Arab area and the developments in the Palestinian cause.

It is to be recalled that Al-Fahum arrived in Moscow a few days ago for talks with Soviet officials on the latest developments on the Palestinian issue and on issues of mutual concern.

FATAH DETAINS SAUDI CITIZEN FOR QUESTIONING

NC241545 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1515 GMT 24 Dec 79 NC

[Text] Our correspondent has learned that Nasir Sa'id, a Saudi national and head of the Arabian Peninsula Organization, who had announced his participation in the Grand Mosque operation, was arrested by Fatah armed men while he was in the house of a member of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine. He was taken to Sabra camp and is currently undergoing intense questioning.

BAHRAIN

PAPER URGES RELEASE OF HOSTAGES IN TEHRAN

GF240900 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 24 Dec 79 p 2 GF

[Editorial]

[Text] It appears the 50 American hostages held for 48 days at the U.S. Embassy in Tehran will not be released for some time. The opportunity to release the captives as a Christmas gesture has almost passed which leaves the prospects for the crisis as grim as ever.

President Carter's government has shown calm in dealing with the issue, seeking to work through all possible channels to secure the release of the hostages. The International Court of Justice in The Hague and the United Nations have called for their release.

Iran has abrogated at least four international agreements which govern the inviolability of diplomatic personnel and has drawn international criticism for its actions. Neither man nor country can remain an island, yet Iran persists in its action. It would be a fatal mistake to regard President Carter's present policy of approaching the crisis as a sign of weakness; the tragedy which threatens is based on mistaken assumptions about what America will or will not do if pushed too far. The truth is that America is running out of options and the mood of the American people is turning nasty. To continue the action is to distract attention away from the more important issues which confront Iran.

The countless Christmas cards and gestures of sympathy from well-wishers throughout the world towards the hapless captives are one expression of feeling appropriate to this time of year. The power of that feeling is already being transformed into another mood in America and the auspices bode ill.

KUWAIT

UN RESOLUTION ON IRAN TO BE REJECTED

LD261428 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1218 GMT 26 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait--Kuwait today officially announced its rejection of any draft resolution to be presented to the UN Security Council concerning imposing economic sanctions on Iran as a result of the crisis at the American Embassy in Tehran.

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has informed newsmen that in spite of Kuwait's opposition to the holding of American hostages at their country's embassy in the Iranian capital, considering it to be something that contradicts international laws, it opposes any measure to impose an economic siege on a Muslim, neighbouring people.

He added that instructions to that effect have been given to Kuwait's delegate to the United Nations 'Abdallah Ya'kub al-Bishara. It is known that the United States will invite the UN Security Council to hold a meeting to impose economic sanctions in Iran due to the crisis at the embassy, which has entered its 51st day.

CARTER SENDS AMIR MESSAGE ON IRAN CRISIS

LD231322 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1214 GMT 23 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait, 23 December--It was announced here today that the amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahad as-Sabah, has received a message from U.S. President Jimmy Carter dealing with the current crisis between Iran and the United States.

No details are available about the contents of the message, which Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn said was conveyed to the cabinet during its meeting today. This is the second message Shaykh Jabir has received from President Carter since the seizure of the U.S. Embassy hostages in November.

Husayn told the press that the amir of Kuwait has exchanged two messages with Cuban President Fidel Castro concerning the results of the nonalined conference held in Havana in September. He also announced that the amir has exchanged two other messages with Bangladesh President Ziaur Rahman on cooperation between the two Islamic countries.

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM SAYS U.S. SEEKING NEW MIDEAST ALLIANCES

LD221058 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0700 GMT 22 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait--AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM has warned against American-Zionist plans aimed at "the destruction of the driving force in Islam" after such plans in the past were able to destroy the driving force in Arab nationalism in "the tragedy" of June 1967. The paper says the Americans, with obvious activity, are now searching for "a regional formula in the Arab area which would have the character of military alliances and treaties without having their names."

The paper adds that although no one in the region desires such alliances the Americans are publicizing the news of their activities in this direction "in order to reap the fruits produced by this publicity" by rocking the stability and by cementing the state of permanent fluctuation and tension which would allow the United States to maintain its military presence in the region and would provide it with the opportunity of plundering the oil to the last drop.

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM says that the "Zionist" United States has considered that by achieving defeat against the Arabs in the June war it "has destroyed the driving force in Arabism and the national tides and it adds that Washington now wants to destroy the driving force in Islam" by setting its forces against one another and by manipulating the historic contradictions among its peoples.

AS-SABAH INTERVIEWED ON ARAB SUMMITS, RELATIONS WITH USSR

LD241340 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1215 GMT 24 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait, 24 December--Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah today reiterated Kuwait's support for the resolutions adopted at the Arab summits in Baghdad and Tunis and its "firm and clear" support for the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

In an interview with a Soviet information mission, Shaykh Sabah praised the "good and developing" relations between Kuwait and the USSR. He expressed his optimism about the development of relations between the two countries in the future "for the good of both peoples."

OMAN

MINISTER STRESSES NEED FOR COHESION AMONG GULF STATES

LD261004 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0800 GMT 26 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Riyadh--Omani Information Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz ar-Rawwas has confirmed that there will never be any irregular Omani steps, or steps against the regional cooperation among the Gulf states, especially with regard to the question of the security of Strait of Hormuz.

The Omani information minister, in a statement published by AL-JAZIRAH here today, says there are pointers to the commitment of the region's states toward each other. He adds that his country considers that brethren are responsible for the protection of any part of the region. He explains that constructive and fraternal cohesion among the region's states in various spheres is considered to be the greatest source of protection to the region at a time when division and separation represent a big source of danger to the security of the Arabian Gulf.

PDRY

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS TAKES CONTROL OF MEDIA

LD251646 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 25 Dec 79 LD/EA

[Text] Brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, has issued Presidium Decree No 15/79, which provides for the abolition of the Ministry of Information. The Council of Ministers will take over supervision of the publishing, printing and distribution of "14 OCTOBER", as well as the information corporation and the ADEN NEWS AGENCY. The decree takes effect from the date of issue and will be published in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

Brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il has also issued Decree No 16/79, which provides for the creation of a commission to be called the State Radio and Television Commission and to be under the Council of Ministers. The decree stipulates that the tasks and abilities of the State Radio and Television Commission and its organs as well as their financial, administrative and technical arrangements will be governed by regulations to be issued in accordance with Council of Ministers Law No 2/79. This decree takes effect from the date of issue and will be published in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

FRIENDSHIP, COOPERATION TREATY WITH USSR RATIFIED

LD221520 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 22 Dec 79 LD/EA

[Summary] 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, the chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, has issued a Presidium decree providing for the ratification of the treaty of friendship and cooperation between the PDRY and the USSR, which was signed in Moscow in October.

ISMA'IL ISSUES LAW REGULATING MILITARY SERVICE

LD241510 Aden Domestic Servive in Arabic 1230 GMT 24 Dec 79 LD/EA

[Text] Brother 'Abd al-Fatta' Isma'il, secretary general of the Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, today issued a law pertaining to the terms of service in PDRY military organizations. The law defines terms and conditions regulating the service of all military personnel in the military establishments, the grading of ranks, names and titles, and the granting of military ranks and functions on the basis of leadership capability, efficiency, loyalty to the revolution and devotion to work.

The law stipulates that for anyone to be employed permanently by the military establishment he must be a Yemeni citizen, be loyal to the Yemeni revolution and homeland, must not have been found guilty of any antisocial crime and must not be less than 16 years of age.

The law also stipulates that a military officer must be a graduate of a recognized military academy, whether Yemeni, Arab or foreign, and should hold a university degree or its equivalent recognized by the Ministry of Education.

ECONOMIC, SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR 1980 APPROVED

LD212116 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 19 Dec 79 LD/EA

[Excerpt] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, member of the Political Bureau, deputy chairman of the Presidium of the People's Supreme Council, premier and chairman of the Supreme Council for National Planning, has chaired a joint meeting of the Council of Ministers and the Supreme Council for National Planning which concluded discussion of the amended draft plan for 1980, the second year of the second 5-year plan for economic and social development, and the draft import program for 1980.

The councils praised the Planning Ministry's efforts to draw up an annual plan compatible with the objectives specified in the document of the second 5-year plan and relevant to all the new conditions and developments affecting the economic reality of the country. The two councils called on the working class and its allies--the peasants, fishermen and all the workers--to zealously and determinedly discharge all tasks and duties embodied in the plan and to work hard to achieve a high income by constantly enhancing production efficiency, dedication to work and concern for public property by economizing in the use of materials, by care of machines, equipment and appliances and by maintaining them constantly.

At the end of the joint meeting, the two councils issued their decision approving the plan for 1980, the second year of the second 5-year plan for economic and social development, and the import program for 1980.

SAUDI ARABIA

KHALID, PAKISTAN'S HAQ HOLD MEETING

LD241052 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1012 GMT 24 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Riyadh, 24 December--A meeting was held at noon today between the Saudi and Pakistani sides under the chairmanship of King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and Pakistani President Ziaul Haq at An-Nasiriyah Palace.

The meeting was attended from the Saudi side by Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and commander of the national guard, Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, minister of defense and aviation, and Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, minister of the interior.

From the Pakistani side, the meeting was attended by Foreign Affairs Adviser Agha Shahi, Interior Minister Mahmud Haroon, Treasury Minister Ghulam Ishaq Khan, Production Minister Ghulam Hassan Khan, Labor Minister Faiz Ali and Chief of Staff Gen Mohammad Arif.

'Islamic Nuclear Bomb'

WA270843 London REUTER in English 0823 GMT 27 Dec 79 WA

[Text] Kuwait, Dec 27, REUTER--A Kuwaiti newspaper said today Pakistan had reported to Saudi Arabia and Iran on the advanced stage it had reached in producing "an Islamic nuclear bomb."

The newspaper AS-SIYASAH, quoting diplomatic sources, said this was one reason behind the visits of Pakistan's martial law ruler General Ziaul Haq and his foreign affairs adviser, Agha Shahi, to Saudi Arabia and Iran, respectively. The bomb, in whose production Libya had greatly helped Pakistan, could be ready before the middle of the next year, the newspaper said. General Ziaul Haq ended a three-day visit to Saudi Arabia yesterday during which he held talks with King Khalid and offered thanksgiving prayers at the Grand Mosque in Mecca, which Moslem extremists had occupied for two weeks last month. Mr Shahi, who had accompanied the Pakistani president to Saudi Arabia, arrived in Tehran yesterday for a two-day visit at the invitation of Iranian Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh.

Haq Departure

LD261344 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1220 GMT 26 Dec 79 LD

[Excerpts] At-Ta'if--His Excellency Gen Muhammad Ziaul Haq, president of Pakistan, left At-Ta'if this afternoon at the end of his 3-day official visit to the kingdom. The Pakistani president was seen off at At-Ta'if airport by a number of senior officials.

UAE HEAD OF STATE PAYS BRIEF VISIT, LEAVES FOR HOME

LD221214 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1145 GMT 22 Dec 79 LD

[Excerpt] Riyadh--His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, head of state of the United Arab Emirates, and his delegation left Riyadh for home at 1215 today following a brief visit to the kingdom during which he had talks with His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. The talks concentrated on bilateral relations between the kingdom and the UAE and the developments of the situation on the Arab and international arenas.

Commentary on Talks

LD231030 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0702 GMT 23 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Riyadh, 23 December--The Saudi paper 'UKAZ comments editorially today on the summit meeting held yesterday between King Khalid and UAE ruler Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan. It says the meeting was extremely significant in the current conditions in view of the political and economic importance the Gulf region has acquired.

The region bases its decision on firm principles consistent with the logic of justice, the paper adds, but is being subjected to a campaign of attempts to detract from its moderate stands. This, it adds, necessitates further consultations and exchanges on all problems with a view to strengthening the stands of the Gulf region and at the same time preserving the region's cohesion.

Yesterday's meeting, 'UKAZ adds, stems from the strong ties that being the two countries together in view of the importance of both in many aspects in the Arab area in particular and internationally in general.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the paper says, is always eager to preserve the balance of trends for the good of mutual interests between it and the international community. 'UKAZ concludes: This is what allows us to assert that the final result of the Riyadh summit was the affirmation of the unity of the region and its ability to defend itself against all attempts to weaken it.

AN-NADWAH Review

LD321032 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0705 GMT 23 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Riyadh, 23 December--Commenting on yesterday's meeting between King Khalid and UAE ruler Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, the Saudi paper AN-NADWAH affirms that the meeting was the result of feverish attempts by some quarters to surround the Gulf region and drive it along a course which only serves the interests of those quarters, with no consideration for the interests of the region and its peoples, who want to work for development and construction without power conflicts, divided influence or the looting of wealth.

The paper points out that the policy of the kingdom and its sisters in the area is to avoid conflicts in the Gulf region and to lead their peoples on the road of security, peace and prosperity. This, the paper adds, is still the policy to which all the sister states adhere to the exclusion of all other policies. These peoples want all the ambitious and covetous to keep away from the region and not to try to embroil it in a situation it cannot tolerate or accept.

In conclusion, the paper writes that the Gulf area, which supplies the world with a large proportion of the oil energy needed for its prosperity and progress, can continue to perform this role which will serve it and serve the entire world at the same time.

UAE

PRESIDENT RETURNS FROM VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA

JN221442 Doha QNA in Arabic 1410 GMT 22 Dec 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 22 December--UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan returned here today after concluding a short visit to Saudi Arabia during which he met with His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd Al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia. The two leaders held important talks on strengthening joint cooperation in various fields. They also exchanged views on current Gulf issues and present developments in the Arab world.

Leaves for Pakistan

JN231053 Doha QNA in Arabic 1030 GMT 23 Dec 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 23 December--UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan left Abu Dhabi for Pakistan this morning on a private visit of several weeks. The UAE president was seen off at Abu Dhabi airport by Shaykh Rashid ibn Sa'id al-Maktum, vice president and prime minister, and senior government officials.

ARMED FORCES COMMANDER RECEIVES IRANIAN AMBASSADOR

JN231301 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1300 GMT 23 Dec 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 23 December--Lt Gen Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid, heir apparent and deputy supreme commander of the armed forces, received at his office at noon today Iranian Ambassador to Kuwait Dr 'Ali Shams Ardakani, who is currently visiting the country. During the meeting, the two sides discussed relations between the UAE and Iran and developments in the situation in the region.

Ambassador's Departure

JN260904 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0845 GMT 26 Dec 79 JN

[Text] Dubayy, 26 December--Iranian Ambassador to Kuwait Dr 'Ali Shams Ardakani left Dubayy for Kuwait this morning at the end of a visit of several days to the UAE. During the visit, the Iranian ambassador met with UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan and with the UAE vice president, prime minister and other officials, with whom he discussed ways of strengthening bilateral relations.

AL-FAJR CALLS FOR GULF SUMMIT ON U.S.-IRAN ISSUE

JN220935 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0730 GMT 22 Dec 79 JN

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 22 December--The newspaper AL-FAJR calls for the establishment of a Gulf position on current developments, particularly the Iranian-U.S. crisis. The following is the text of the AL-FAJR editorial:

Meetings among Arab Gulf countries appear now to be more urgently needed than ever to define a unified stand on the current situation in the area, particularly the Iranian-U.S. crisis. It goes without saying that unless the Iranian-U.S. crisis is settled in a cordial manner its repercussions will transform the area into one of tension, if not of struggle, for a long time to come. This will undoubtedly affect the security and stability of the Arab area and will prevent Arab countries from devoting themselves to the fateful issues they are facing.

The United States has begun to speak openly of its readiness to impose an economic siege on Iran, a measure we sincerely hope major Western powers will not take, in order to provide opportunity to the efforts underway to settle the hostages issue peacefully, within the framework of Iranian-U.S. relations. We also hope that differences between fraternal Iran and the United States will be settled through solutions acceptable to both. However, the situation calls for a consideration of all possibilities. Besides the efforts Arab Gulf countries might exert to serve peace and security, these countries are required to define their stand beforehand, in order to avoid being surprised by events, whereby they might find themselves agreeing to something they do not want or find an unacceptable situation imposed upon them.

We would not be exaggerating in saying that the situation calls for an urgent summit meeting. To simplify matters, we would say that a preparatory ministerial meeting would not be needed, particularly as the policies of the area's countries are identical on all issues and have been defined during the constant consultations among Arab Gulf countries, all of which are anxious to keep the area out of the arena of struggle.

OIL PRODUCTION TO BE REDUCED 3 RATHER THAN 5 PERCENT

JN220900 Doha QNA in Arabic 0845 GMT 22 Dec 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 22 December--The newspaper AL-FAJR published in Abu Dhabi reports today that the volume of UAE oil exports during 1980 will be reduced by 70,000 instead of the 110,000 barrels a day as previously scheduled. The UAE had decided earlier to reduce its oil production by 5 percent during next year for technical reasons. However the plan now is that the reduction should be less than 3 percent. The UAE currently produces 1,836,000 barrels a day.

MINISTER CALLS ON OPEC TO RETURN TO $24 CEILING PRICE

JN240649 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0600 GMT 24 Dec 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 24 December--UAE Petroleum and Natural Resources Minister Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah has affirmed that OPEC's unity will not be affected by the inability to reach a unified pricing system at the recent Caracas conference.

In a statement following his return here from London last night, after participating in the OPEC conference meetings that ended in the Venezuelan capital last week, Dr al-'Utaybah said the Caracas conference can be termed the conference in support of developing countries. He pointed out that the decisions made in support of developing countries are a prelude to other major decisions in this connection that will be made by OPEC leaders at their meeting in Baghdad in September.

Dr al-'Utaybah called on OPEC countries to return, collectively or individually, to the pricing system set by the UAE, Saudi Arabia and Qatar, by fixing the amount of $24 as the ceiling price for their oil and by agreeing on reasonable differentials, commensurate with the current oil market and the various oil grades.

Dr al-'Utaybah explained that the UAE's stand at the conference, which was taken in coordination with Saudi Arabia and Qatar, derived from the desire to control the oil market and to put an end to the recent chaos, which is part of OPEC's responsibility toward the world's economy.

PLO TO OPEN CONSULATE IN DUBAI 3 JANUARY

JN262053 Doha QNA in Arabic 2030 GMT 26 Dec 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 26 December--Ribhi 'Awad, director of the PLO office in the UAE, has said that UAE Vice President and Prime Minister His Highness Shaykh Rashid ibn Sa'id al-Maktum, in his capacity as ruler of the Emirate of Dubai, has welcomed the opening of a consulate attached to the PLO office on 3 January to look after Palestinian interests in Dubai and the UAE northern emirates.

In a statement to QNA, Ribhi 'Awad said Abu Jihad has been chosen to head the consulate.

The Palestinian official said he had handed Shaykh Rashid a written message from PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat on bilateral relations. He added that during this meeting talks were held on the latest developments in the Palestinian situation and the current Arab situation, particularly the Libyan-Palestinian crisis.

In his statement, Ribhi 'Awad said that at its eruption the Palestinian revolution decided not to yield to any pressure or extortion from any quarter whatsoever. Its decision, he said, stems from the Palestinian people's future.

SOMALI FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES IN ABU DHABI

JN201816 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1810 GMT 20 Dec 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 20 December--Somali Foreign Affairs Minister Abdurahman Jama Barre arrived in Abu Dhabi this evening on a 3-day visit to the UAE on his way to Japan.

The Somali foreign minister told the EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY that he will convey a verbal message to UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan from Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre dealing with bilateral relations and the current Arab situation.

Departs for Tokyo

JN231326 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1305 GMT 23 Dec 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 23 December--Somali Foreign Affairs Minister Abdurahman Jama Barre left Abu Dhabi for Tokyo this morning following a 3-day visit to the UAE. The Somali foreign affairs minister was seen off at the airport by the head of the Political Department in the Foreign Ministry Ya'qub al-Kindi and Somali Ambassador to the UAE Aboi Nur Ali Yusuf.

YAR

DJIBOUTI PRESIDENT ARRIVES ON 3-DAY VISIT

JN202033 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 20 Dec 79 JN

[Excerpt] Djibouti President Hassan Gouled arrived in San'a; at 1800 today on an official 3-day visit to the YAR. The Djibouti president was welcomed at the airport by brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces; brothers al-Qadi 'Abd al-Karim al-'Arashi, vice president and president of the People's Constituent Assembly; Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani; Lt Col 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Barati, armed forces chief of staff; members of the Higher Corrective Council and the Consultative Council; ministers; some members of the Constituent People's Assembly; heads of the Arab and foreign diplomatic missions; armed forces and public security officers and a group of citizens.

Concludes Talks

JN230719 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 22 Dec 79 JN

[Excerpt] The final session of the official talks between the Yemeni and Djibouti sides was held at the presidential palace this afternoon. Brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, headed the Yemeni side at the talks while President Hassan Gouled headed the Djibouti side. During this session, the two sides completed the discussion of the topics they had dealt with in the first session of talks.

The meeting was attended on the Yemeni side by Brothers Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani and Deputy Prime Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr Hasan Makki. On the Djibouti side, the talks were attended by Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Minister Moumine Bahdon Farah, Industry and Industrial Administration Minister Ali Mahamed Houmed and Djibouti's ambassador in Paris.

His Excellency Djibouti President Hassan Gouled and the delegation accompanying him left San'a' for Al-Hudaydah at 1500 today. His Excellency President Gouled and the delegation accompanying him were accorded an official sendoff at the presidential palace.

Returns Home

JN241735 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 24 Dec 79 JN

[Excerpt] His Excellency Djibouti President Hassan Gouled and the delegation accompanying him left Ta'iz for home this morning at the end of an official visit of several days to the YAR.

SAUDI INDUSTRY MINISTER ARRIVES IN SAN'A'

JN231752 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 23 Dec 79 JN

[Text] Saudi Industry and Electricity Minister Dr Ghazi al-Qusaybi arrived in San'a' this afternoon at the head of a delegation on an official visit to the YAR. In a statement to the SABA' NEWS AGENCY, Dr Al-Qusaybi said he is carrying a written message to brother leader President Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih from his brother His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. He added that this message is part of the continuous consultation between the two countries, particularly during the current Arab situation, which requires unified Arab ranks as well as continuous coordination and cooperation. He added that he will also convey King Khalid's greetings to brother leader President Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih.

The Saudi delegation was received at the airport by brother 'Ali Lufti ath-Thawr, development minister and chairman of the Central Planning Department; the deputy chief of staff for military affairs; a protocol delegate; the Saudi charge d'affaires in San'a'; the Saudi military attache; the Saudi Embassy staff; and a number of officials.

Delivers Message

JN231753 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 23 Dec 79 JN

[Text] Brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, received this evening Dr Ghazi al-Qusaybi, Saudi industry and electricity minister, who is currently visiting the YAR.

The SABA' NEWS AGENCY has learned that Dr al-Qusaybi handed the brother president a written message from his brother His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia.

The meeting was attended by brother 'Ali Lufti ath-Thawr, development minister and chairman of the Central Planning Department.

AS-SADAT GRANTS BIRTHDAY INTERVIEW TO HIMMAT MUSTAFA

NC252235 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1841 GMT 25 Dec 79 NC

[Egyptian television reporter Himmat Mustafa interview with President Anwar as-Sadat at Mit Abu al-Kawm on his birthday--date not given, recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] Now that three-quarters of Sinai will be liberated next month, God willing, will the second part of the Camp David accord--reading autonomy for the Palestinians--be implemented despite the obstacles the negotiations are facing?

[Answer] Yes, yes. I say this with all quietness, reassurance, confidence and optimism because these are the values which this soil has taught me. According to my calculations, I say yes, God willing. I say this will be achieved even before the deadline of May 1980. We will, God willing, achieve autonomy for the West Bank and Gaza and will also agree on Jerusalem. In my recent meetings with Begin and during my recent visit to Haifa, I said that we must agree also on Jerusalem. In a few days, God willing, I will receive Begin in Aswan. We will start a new round in an atmosphere about which many are pessimistic. I am not pessimistic. As with the last two times when we agreed on the Camp David accord and the peace treaty, I also say that we will achieve the autonomy, God willing, now that we have, with the Egyptian-Israeli treaty, laid the foundation for the comprehensive settlement. Whether the Arabs like it or not, we have laid the foundation for the comprehensive settlement. Let them call it a separate agreement or anything else. Their barking is worth nothing after all this time and after they have been exposed to the entire world and to our people. I say that we will achieve autonomy, God willing. With the treaty we laid the foundation for the comprehensive settlement. What will happen next is that there will be an agreement on autonomy and on Jerusalem, God willing, in order that we may enter the era of peace through all its wide doors.

[Question] After the comprehensive peace and autonomy, what will be the next step for the Palestinians?

[Answer] This is a very important question. Among the claims they [the Arabs] are disseminating in the world is that I have assumed responsibility for speaking on behalf of the Palestinians and that I have no right to speak for them. This is a clear prevarication, exactly like their prevarication that the Egyptian-Israeli treaty is nothing but a separate agreement. The Egyptian-Israeli treaty is the foundation and cornerstone for comprehensive peace, whether they like it or not and whether they understand or not. Their attitude is not important because reality, history and facts are one thing and ignorance, hatred and bitterness are another.

I have not assumed and will never assume or permit Egypt to assume responsibility for speaking in the name of the Palestinians. Never. In my present struggle and my future meetings with Begin and in the meetings of our delegations in Cairo, Herzliyya, Tel Aviv and elsewhere, we will not speak and have not spoken on behalf of the Palestinians. Never.

In Camp David and the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty, we have, as I said, laid the foundation for the comprehensive settlement. After laying this foundation, we are actually paving the way to end the Israeli occupation and the sufferings of the Palestinian people. Egypt has a responsibility in this regard, at least to the Gaza Strip if not to both [the Strip and the West Bank]. Egypt has a historic responsibility to both. It has at least a responsibility to the Gaza Strip. The Gaza Strip was under my protection when it was occupied in 1967. The least I can do is end its occupation and put it on the first right path.

Well, someone might ask: What is this right path? The right path is to end the Israeli occupation and immediately terminate the Israeli military government in order that the Palestinians may assume their affairs for a 5-year transitional period during which they would sit at the same table with Israel, me, the United States and with Jordan, when Husayn comes to the negotiating table. He will come whether he likes it or not. They would sit down and decide their own fate. It is my responsibility to end the occupation and put right the mistake I made. The mistake was to allow their territory to be occupied in 1967. I did not leave them alone because my Sinai was also occupied then. This was not a failure on my part. This was a calamity and, as I said, an epoch which God willed for us. Perhaps we have emerged from it with lessons which have benefited us in our present work for the future.

I do not speak for the Palestinians, and I will not allow the Americans, Israel, King Husayn or any power--I will not allow them to decide the fate of one inch of the Palestinian land in the absence of its people. Never. I am returning the situation to its status before the defeat. I am removing the occupation, and I will bring them and tell them: Here, you have assumed responsibility for your own affairs; now come and sit at the table. Israel wants settlements; let them talk to them, and let them say to Israel: Sorry, we will not allow you to have settlements. If Israel wants security arrangements, let them say to Israel: All right, we will give you this security, but we will not give you this. This is not my business. This is the Palestinians' business. I am just a factor helping the establishment of comprehensive peace. I am doing whatever is necessary to facilitate this.

Within this context, I said that I will supply the Nile water to our sacred place in Jerusalem in order to say to the Palestinians and Israel that I want to facilitate your task so we can all live in peace. For this I will give you the dearest and most precious thing for the three religions in Jerusalem, because Jerusalem must be the city of the three religions. But no one can disregard the fact that 800 million Muslims and Arabs have historic rights in Jerusalem. As I said in Israel, in the Knesset, at the press conference, and later to the Israeli television: None of the 800 million Arabs and Muslims will accept Israeli sovereignty over Arab Jerusalem. Let the city be united. But none of the 800 million Muslims--and I am one of them--will accept Israeli sovereignty over Arab Jerusalem.

[Question] Mr President, the normalization of relations between Egypt and Israel will begin in February. What are your excellency's expectations regarding the reaction to this move? Is Egypt ready, as usual, to face these nervous reactions?

[Answer] I am sad. I am really sad because the facts are clear as the sun. Regrettably--as almighty God tells us that the eyes are not blind, but the hearts are blind--the facts are clear to all eyes, but the hearts are blind, deaf, hateful.

They [the Arabs] are making a big fuss about the normalization of relations. We have agreed that this will take place at the end of the first stage, which will end at the end of "the year in which the people will have abundant water, and in which they will press (wine and oil)" [Koran verse]--on 25 January. I hope and pray, as I prayed to God in the seventies, that the eighties will be full of blessing, peace and prosperity for my people and for all of us in the area. God willing, they will be so, because 25 days after the beginning of the eighties, on 25 January, God willing, the first stage of Israeli withdrawal from Sinai to the Al-'Arish-Ra's Muhammad line will end. Three-quarters of Sinai will have been returned to us at the end of this stage. With this we will add to the foundation stone we laid at Camp David and the peace treaty another brick, as the builders say. We will anchor it firmly in the ground so it cannot shake.

This will take place on 25 January, as we have agreed. As I said, eyes are not blind, but hearts are blind. After all these stages we have passed, the normalization of relations is a natural thing. The rejection front, by accepting Resolution 242, recognizes Israel. What is this beating around the bush? Even at the Baghdad conference--the conference of emotionalism, vituperation, hatred and bitterness--they said that there must be a peaceful solution and not a solution through war. By God, how can a peaceful solution be reached without sitting with Israel and talking with it? How can a peaceful solution be reached? Perhaps they imagine that a peaceful solution is--as they say today--that Israel must leave the 1967 occupied territory immediately, and so Menahem Begin takes the 1967 territory to them on a gold plate and distributes it among them and says to them: May you have a long life, take your land; may you have a long life, take your land. So he would go to each Arab leader and tell him: Take your land. It is not like that. Come and sit with Menahem Begin and tell him: There are two things. When I sat with Begin, I told him there are two things: Let the 1973 war be the last. Yes. Israel has a security problem. Yes. We also have a security problem. It agreed, and we concluded the agreements at Camp David and then the peace treaty. This will be followed by the bricks which we will lay on 25 January, which we should call "a year in which the people will have abundant water, and in which they will press (wine and oil)". It will be the year of brick laying. We agreed that there will be no more wars after the October War. We dealt with the security arrangements. You want security, and I want security. We agreed on this, and the problem is over. The first stage is coming to an end, and will be followed by the next stage. We are going ahead with peace.

Some leave all this and say: How could the Israeli flag fly? Some emotional person stands up and says how could we let Israeli flag be hoisted here on Egyptian territory while millions of Palestinian flags are waving, or would these flags come down, or, I do not know what. This is emotional talk.

We have agreed and laid the foundations for peace. You emotional people, and especially the rejectionists, recognize and sit side by side at the United Nations with Israel. At every Security Council meeting and at every General Assembly meeting, which is usually held every September, you sit there with Israel, which is a member like all of us and whose flag is hoisted at the United Nations. What is this? Are we to dwell on the issue of the flag and leave the essence? The essence is peace and security and reassurance for all of us.

We will exchange ambassadors, God willing, at the end of the first stage. Israel will have an ambassador here. I have heard that the Israelis have chosen Elisar to be their ambassador. We will choose our ambassador in these coming days. They want to make an issue of this. The main and fundamental issue is peace. The question of exchange of ambassadors is a very natural and even peripheral question. It is not a fundamental question. The essence is peace and that we coexist as neighbors.

They say that Sudan will sever its relations when the Israeli ambassador arrives because it will not be raised. [as heard] If Sudan wants to behave like our other emotional brothers, we will say nothing. They are our relatives and brothers and they are free to behave as they want. However, relations will be normalized and we will exchange ambassadors because the essence is peace and not the flag or the Israeli ambassador. What is wrong with this? The Israeli ambassador will come. We agreed that there will be no war after October, that we will live in peace as neighbors and that we will work for the security and prosperity of our coming generations. We agreed to establish peace for our children. It is, regrettably, our habit in the Arab nation to adhere to the surface and leave the essence. The essence is peace.

Relations will of course be normalized and comprehensive peace will be built and will be cemented, as I said, in the eighties, God willing, from the very first month in the eighties. This is a good omen. After this, we are now--in fact we were before, are now and will be--tackling our problems in a very big way and rebuilding, as in the example of the old village and the new village of Mit Abu al-Kawm. We do this with the values, genuineness, and strength of our land and with faith and clarity of vision, with prosperity and love as our objectives, and with the most advanced science and technology of our era. This is a state of science and faith. We have no time for talk and discussion of such issues as the hoisting of the Israeli flag in Cairo, or for those who are afraid of peace and do not want to meet the Israeli ambassador. Everyone is free to stay or leave in God's peace. We have put an end to hatred and to the endless conflict, and we have laid the cornerstone for a settlement.

Of course they try. I know that many are trying in many circles now to make an issue of the normalization of relations and the appointment of ambassadors. Our people are very mature and very big. A total of 5 million welcomed me when I came back from Jerusalem, 5 million welcomed me when I came back after signing the Camp David agreement, and 5 million when I returned home after signing the peace agreement. Our people do this out of conviction. They know what is the essence and what is superficial.

[Question] Regarding the Arab states after the new Baghdad conference, this time last year you predicted what is now happening in the Arab states now, whether in relation to one another or to their own domestic affairs, or the nonexistent efforts for the Palestine cause. Have the events gone even further than your excellency's predictions?

[Answer] In a way that never occurred to me at all, Himmat. I recall that during my interview with Anis Mansur [editor of OCTOBER magazine] at the beginning of 1979, we talked about the year's events. I had not expected developments and changes to reach this unimaginable degree. For example, I had said that I was expecting things to happen in Syria. The artillery academy incidents in Aleppo had not taken place yet nor had the massacres and other events. All this year we have been hearing about what is happening in Syria. The battles were still continuing just yesterday. It is a matter of days for the Alawite Ba'thist regime in Syria.

What happened in Saudi Arabia is something that I never expected. I must make it clear that what was done at the Great Mosque by those who perpetrated it cannot be accepted by any Muslim, because it is our holiest of holies. Almighty God instructed us that whoever enters it will be safe. The beauty of it is that even pigeons are safe there; they fly down and eat among the people and no one harms them. This is a crime which no Muslim accepts.

But what are the implications of this? Saudi Arabia was the spearhead which called for breaking off relations with Egypt, and it paid some, twisted the arm of others, and requested others out of courtesy to break off their relations with Egypt because it constituted the new leadership. I never expected what happened. I do not want to comment any further. It is enough to say that the stage we are living in today in our area--perhaps I will one day talk about it and explain it--indicates that Egypt was right. Egypt is firm, a leader and an island of love and peace.

After the normalization of relations a nervous wave and convulsions will definitely take place. We have grown used to these convulsions, which no longer affect us. I thank God that the Arabs did this before we got involved with them in the huge reconstruction projects which we have begun. If we had got involved with them and they did what they did this year while we were in the middle of the road, they would have dealt us the heavy blow they wanted; they would have made us starve. However, I thank God they revealed their intentions early and we have done without all Arab aid. Our budget was submitted to the People's Assembly, our projects are being implemented, our problems are being solved and our supplies are coming from every part of the world.

We will not worry about the convulsions that will definitely take place. Their convulsive reaction will perhaps affect airlines, Egyptians working in those countries and their money transfers, and will be coupled with vituperation and incrimination from the radios surrounding us on which they are spending their people's money. However, none of this will stop the course of history and none of this will in the least shake the foundation of comprehensive peace which we have laid and completed.

[Question] What about the current incidents in Iran?

[Answer] Himmat, I have talked too much, but [indistinct interruption by Himmat] regarding the problem of Iran I am sad indeed. Sad as I am for the Arabs, I am just as sad for Iran because it is regrettable that Khomeyni is exploiting Islam. Islam is not at all the spite of Khomeyni. It is reasonable that a man with the title of imam and ayatollah--their expressions there are elastic: Ayatollah Shari'at-Madari and Ruhollah--is it strange that Islam, the religion of love and fraternity, is used to commit the ugliest crimes? This is taking place in the name of an Islamic revolution. This is a crime against Islam.

All right, the Arabs have lost their senses because regrettably the Arab leaders throughout history have not changed. I will not go back too far. Let us recall that while Saladin was liberating the Arab area from the Crusaders he was subjected to plots by his fellow Arab princes, who betrayed him and put poison in his food to kill him. This has always been the case with the Arabs. What is happening in the Arab arena is not new. As I have told you, I never expected what happened, especially the latest battle between the mad boy of Libya and the PLO. This is a scandal. The same is happening in Algeria, Morocco, Lebanon and the PDRY--problems with the YAR and the PDRY treaty with the Soviet Union and Ethiopia and their presence on the Saudi border. I predicted all this which increased our determination, power, steadfastness and will.

Why does Khomeyni speak in the name of Islam and why don't the Muslims answer him? It is a shame. The hostages are messengers and U.S. Embassy officials. The foreign minister makes a statement and the students come out the next day and tell him: No. You have no right to make such a statement. Khomeyni agrees with the students. Moreover, Foreign Minister Bani Sadr said something which the students rejected and he was removed. Qotbzadeh makes a statement and the students cancel it. Qotbzadeh himself cancels the statement the next day. What is this world we are living in? Is this Islam and is this an Islamic state? I take refuge in God, I take refuge in God. Despite this, not a Muslim nor a head of an Islamic state stirs to tell the world: This is not Islam. This is called Khomeyni and his hatred. Although he is an imam and an ayatollah and although he is an octogenarian, he is gloating over the ailing shah, who is thousands of miles away and who left him the country with a $250-million daily revenue. With this sum Khomeyni can turn Iran into a paradise. Why does he not develop his country?

Now in the name of the Islamic state students are occupying the embassy. What is shameful is that there were women in the embassy whom they only later remembered and released, keeping the men hostage. What crime have the embassy staff members committed? Are the U.S. Embassy staff members required to work for Iran as spies against the United States? They are working for their country. Any embassy in any country works for its own country. This is an acknowledged norm.

There are two ludicrous stands. The first ludicrous stand is that the students impose their will in a state where there is no cabinet, authority or anything. The second is that they ask that the shah be handed over as a condition for the release of the hostages. Khomeyni, between you and the Iranian people, on the one hand, and the shah of Iran on the other there is a problem and history. You are free. He was your shah and an Iranian like you. It is your country and you the people do whatever you want with your shah. But what has the United States to do with it? What has the United States to do with the handing over of the shah? For one whole year Egypt was the only country in the world--and I am proud of this--to express readiness to receive the shah of Iran and his family. This is because in the 20th century and in the name of Islam and all values a man and his family who can do nothing are being hunted down. He left everything to them. He is being chased so that he cannot live anywhere. Is this revolutionary behavior? Is this Islam? I take refuge in God. No Muslim Arab leader moved to say this is against Islam.

Another mockery concerns Saudi Arabia. When the incident took place in the Great Mosque in Mecca, Khomeyni exploited it to inflame feelings and say that the culprit was the United States. The result was that demonstrations were staged in Pakistan and the U.S. Embassy was burned. Demonstrations also took place in India and I do not know where else. By the same token, no one in Saudi Arabia came out to tell the truth. If the United States is the culprit, then let the Saudis tell us so. All of us would then fight this battle against the United States because the Great Mosque is our holiest of holies. All of us would fight the United States. But Saudi Arabia did not reply. But when one like Khomeyni in the name of Islam misleads the Muslims, my sorrow is not for the Arabs, because I stopped feeling sad for them because of their grudges; I am now sad for the Islamic nation. I am sad because a spiteful man who has nothing but hatred, vengeance and grudges is inciting Muslims in the name of Islam to strike at the United States or this or that nation. Where is reason? Where are Islam's teachings that people should be good, loving, truthful, cooperative and fraternal?

Since the advent of Khomeyni the Iranian people have been living a tragedy. I am sad for the Islamic world because the same fever of the Arab rulers moved to certain Muslim leaders. One like Khomeyni gives himself the status of god in the constitution.

During the pilgrimage season the Iranian pilgrims cheered: God Is Great, Khomeyni Is Great. That is, Khomeyni is a great as God, exactly in the same rank as God. There in Iran he is more infallible than prophets, because the Iranians did not at all say Muhammad is great. They did not say, as is usual, God Is Great and Muhammad Is God's Messenger. Instead they said God Is Great, Khomeyni Is Great. I take refuge in God. As a Muslim I denounce this. I will not hesitate to resist this if it tries to infiltrate into certain sterile people here. I say frankly to people and to the whole world that what is happening in Iran is a curse to Islam, humanity, man's dignity and to all values God almighty wills.

[Question] What are the effects of events in Iran on the Gulf area and the Middle East?

[Answer] They speak for themselves. I spoke at length, Mrs Himmat, I would not want to [indistinct interruption by Himmat Mustafa] strain the people. What are the points?

[Question] Your excellency said that the Iranian events speak for themselves.

[Answer] They speak for themselves. I would like to say one thing: The current events in Iran represent a turning point, in other words there will be in Iran's history a prebattle and postbattle phase. This is like the pro-October and post-October history.

[Question] Mr President, at one meeting you held you declared that Egypt will reassess its relations with the Arab states in the wake of the Egyptian people having been accused of several things which the Egyptian people reject. What does your excellency mean by the reassessment of relations?

[Answer] In a few words, so that we will not become bored, the matter should be clearly put to the people. The present hysteria, which, as I said, is regrettably moving from the Arab to the Islamic nation, is related to facts here in the Arab nation: King 'Abdallah and his family were number one traitors of the Arab cause. His grandson Husayn is now claiming to be a patriot and saying Egypt is a traitor to the Palestinian question. This is ridiculous. Syria committed treason during the October War. We overlooked this treason in order to march ahead. This is no longer the case. The National Party is drafting a paper. This paper will be discussed by the Political Bureau and then referred to the people for discussion. The final word rests with the people. Egypt will permit no insolence. Nothing the Arabs do will either stop or change the course of history or make history turn back, never. Everything they do is an abuse. Egypt will permit no insolence from weakling dwarfs. The people must decide on this matter. It does not concern just me, the People's Assembly and the cabinet. It concerns all the people.

[Question] Modern socities are regulated by laws preserving values and traditions. Your excellency is interested in safeguarding the country's nobility and traditions. Could you comment on the studies you are carrying out in this respect?

[Answer] I hope this is the last question because it has been almost 2 hours. In accordance with my request to the judges, the People's Assembly is drafting a code of ethics. Such a law should not be necessary because by our nature we know what shame means and what to say and not to say. But, regrettably, in the city there is exploitation, egotism and other things like betrayal and treachery. The code of ethics is being drafted and will be publicly debated. When Kennedy, during his election campaigning against Carter, attempted to exploit the question of Iran and attack the shah, the entire American people denounced this and said it was a national matter which Kennedy should not discuss. A national matter there amounts to a family matter here. They did not draft a separate law on this there but dealt with it through routine measures because obviously they do not behave disgracefully. Here we have people who surpass the limits and make it necessary to draft a code of ethics.

WAR PRODUCTION MINISTER RETURNS FROM U.S. VISIT

NC231540 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1453 GMT 23 Dec 79 NC

[Excerpt] Cairo, 23 December--Minister of State for War Production Dr Kamal Tawfiq Nassar and the delegation accompanying him returned to Cairo today after a 12-day visit to the United States.

During his visit, the minister held important military discussions on bolstering bilateral relations in the area of war production within the framework of the cooperation protocol signed in October.

Dr Kamal Tawfiq Nassar said that his discussions in the United States were very successful and that his visit achieved its aims. In a statement he made to MENA's military editor, the minister of state for war production added that his discussions centered on the development and diversification of war products and the introduction of new industries that previously had not been produced locally.

JANA: KUWAITI PAPER REPORTS ISLAMIC OPPOSITION GROUP

LD261621 Tripoli JANA in English 1445 GMT 26 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait, Dec 26, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The Kuwaiti newspaper AL-ANBA' today said that Egyptian security forces uncovered a new Islamic organisation which calls for the forceful overthrow of the Egyptian regime.

The Kuwaiti paper did not disclose the name of the organisation which resembles a similar society whose leader was executed last year after being found guilty of murdering a former Egyptian minister.

The paper also did not say how many people were arrested but added that the organisation's leader is still at large. It said the security forces are now fully mobilised to apprehend him and other members of the organisation.

AL-ANBA' said Islamic fundamentalists have withdrawn from student union elections in Asyut University after the administration's interference in forming alternate union lists which do not include them as members.

The paper said the fundamentalists then carried out a demonstration but that the university's chancellor Dr. Hassan Hamdi was able to convince them to disperse.

On the other hand, reports from Cairo say Egyptian universities have for the last month witnessed anti-regime activities because of persistent interference in electoral affairs and the rigging of election results.

The reports said highly coordinated action has been observed between university administrators, so-called "university guards", and the regime's secret service. The coordination efforts are basically aimed at monitoring the activities of leaders of the student movement opposed to the regime's domestic and external policies.

The defeated Egyptian president had admitted yesterday in a television interview that strong opposition exists inside Egypt against his adopted capitulationist policy. He also expected strong opposition in the future for his policy of normalised relations with (Israel).

PRIME MINISTER MEETS WITH GHALI ON NEGOTIATIONS

NC271152 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1101 GMT 27 Dec 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 27 December--Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil met today for 1 and 1/2 hours with the minister of state for foreign affairs, Dr Butrus Ghali.

MENA has learned that at the meeting Dr Butrus Ghali submitted a report on the autonomy talks, prepared by the Foreign Ministry. The report reviews in full the course of the negotiations since their start on 25 July. the progress made to date, and the problems facing the negotiators--particularly the proposed Palestinian authority and the elections.

The report also mentions Egypt's principled position concerning these negotiations--particularly the points relating to Palestinian authority and the need to render it into a full autonomy which would include legislative, executive and judicial powers. The report also indicates the need to hold elections in East Jerusalem as well--considering that East Jerusalem is an indivisible part of the West Bank and what applies to the West Bank also applies to Jerusalem.

The report cites Egypt's concepts for the forthcoming stage.

Today's meeting falls within the framework of the preparations for the summit meeting between President as-Sadat and Menahem Begin meeting, scheduled for 7 January.

AD-DUSTUR VIEWS U.S. CALL FOR UN SANCTIONS AGAINST IRAN

JN230712 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 23 Dec 79 JN

[From the press review]

[Text] The newspaper AD-DUSTUR highlights the pretext announced by U.S. President Jimmy Carter for imposing economic sanctions on Iran; namely, the violation of international law and the challenge of UN Security Council resolutions. The paper wonders whether President Carter would approve convening the Security Council to impose economic sanctions on Israel, for it has violated international law through establishing settlements in the occupied Arab territories and refusing to implement the resolutions of the Security Council and the UN General Assembly which have asked Israel many times to withdraw from the occupied Arab territories and to give the Palestinians the right to self-determination.

AD-DUSTUR says: For 30 years the United States has been supporting Israel with money, arms and diplomacy against the UN Security Council, the UN General Assembly, the Arab people, Palestinian rights and the whole world. The United States has been indifferent to Israeli violations of international law and its continued challenge of the international will.

It is only when the confrontation between the United States and Iran over the issue of the hostages occurred that the United States remembered international law and the United Nations. Thus, it has gone ahead with its plans to stir up the world against Iran, demanding the imposition of economic and trade sanctions against it.

GOVERNMENT POSITION ON MIDEAST SETTLEMENT REMAINS UNCHANGED

JN231742 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 23 Dec 79 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The formation of the new Jordanian cabinet has generated all kinds of speculation in the media about the policy to be followed by the government of Prime Minister Sharif 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf. Although the Jordanian position on the question of Middle East peace has often been reiterated, certain quarters seem to have ignored these reaffirmations and have succumbed to the wild dreams of the Camp David accords, which have been nullified by the United Nations and rejected in toto by the Arabs.

These media are saying that Jordan would be the key to peace if it followed the Camp David line and would be working against peace if it did not follow this line, which has proved to be a failure.

Perhaps it is proper to reiterate once again that Jordan has always supported and is still supporting peace and that Jordan aspires to the achievement of peace in the region provided that it is a just and comprehensive peace which primarily provides, among other things, for Israel's complete withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, particularly Jerusalem, and the recognition of the Palestinian people's rights, especially their right to determine their own national destiny on their soil.

These are the bases of the peace which Jordan believes in and seeks with the cooperation of its other Arab brothers in accordance with the principles and objectives set by the 9th and 10th Arab summits and Jordan's absolute adherence to Arab solidarity. Jordan is forging ahead on the basis of this pan-Arab stand without paying attention to what is being said here and there, especially by the Camp David states and their propaganda media, which are trying to cover up their failure by talking about the possibility of other Arab contries joining the talks.

Jordan's declared principled stands on the process of peace in the region, the solution of the Middle East conflict and the Palestine question are firm, basic stands which cannot at any time be the subject of compromise, because these stands stem from Jordan's affiliation to its Arab nation and the great Arab homeland.

QNA: KING HUSAYN, 'ARAFAT AGREE TO SUPPLY PLA WITH ARMS

JN211544 Doha QNA in Arabic 1510 GMT 21 Dec 79 JN

[Text] Riyadh, 21 December--King Husayn of Jordan and Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, have agreed to supply the Palestine Liberation Army [PLA] positioned in Jordan with the necessary weapons and equipment. This was published in the Saudi magazine AL-YAMAMAH today. The magazine added that the two leaders also agreed on conscription for the PLA from among Gaza citizens and the new refugees in Jordan from occupied Palestine. Citing Palestinian sources the magazine said agreement has been reached to appoint Col Samir al-Khatib commander of the Palestinian army which will be supplied with Soviet weapons.

PREMIER DELIVERS GOVERNMENT POLICY STATEMENT 24 DEC

JN241815 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1220 GMT 24 Dec 79 JN

[Jordanian Government policy statement delivered by Prime Minister Sharif 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf before the National Consultative Council on 24 December 1979--recorded]

[Excerpts] Mr Speaker, honorable members. While presenting our first statement to the esteemed council and citizens, I and my colleagues are honored to pay our respects to His Exalted Majesty King Husayn, the leader of the homeland and guarantor of its security, wellbeing and mind and to express our gratitude to him for entrusting us with the responsibility of government for the next phase and giving us the honor of working under his enlightened leadership in the fields of future progress and reconstruction.

This government is assuming its responsibility with certain deep convictions. It believes that it has not emerged from a vacuum. So it hopes by the end of its term, the target for national progress which it has set for itself will have been achieved.

New Jordan will not go backward. Its march will not suffer a setback and its high ideals will not be sacrificed. These ideals, which the government upholds and considers essential for the future of Jordan, are summed up as follows:

Government honesty cannot be tampered with. Violation of this honesty will not be tolerated. A clean government is one that lasts and deserves public confidence. It is the government which can enter into a dialog with the citizens and command their respect and cooperation. This means there will be no manifestations of deviation, corruption or profiteering by those in authority.

Insuring justice is the right of all citizens. The government and the regime are in the service of the citizens. They are not above the rights and aspirations of the citizens. Although achieving absolute justice is impossible, still government departments will be open to consider people cases, rights and demands to insure equity and respect. The government must leave its doors wide open to the legitimate demands of all citizens so long as these demands express a right or a legitimate need which are within the government's capability and duty. The government will back the judiciary so it will be a firm guarantee for justice in the homeland.

Jordan is a living, ambitious forward-looking country. New Jordan can only be created through continuous social, economic, scientific, cultural and organizational achievements.

We are not idealists in this country. Every mature citizen is aware of the weaknesses, shortcomings and failures in our institutions, work and reality. Some of these problems were created by circumstances and the development stages through which we have gone and others with our own hands. These problems cannot be solved by a stroke of the pen or a waving of the magic wand. We will try to solve them once we have defined them, set the target and worked together.

The government will give priority to studying our economic problems and steering the national economy whenever necessary. In the past 20 years, Jordan has made big economic strides. It is important to maintain this economic momentum, steer it on the correct path and rectify any mistakes. The government will continue to stress certain basic rules in our national economy. Most important of these is preserving individual enterprise.

It is the duty of the government to insure job opportunities for the citizens and to meet their basic human needs--food, housing, medical treatment and education--at a reasonable level. At the same time, this government would like to point out the erroneous consumption trends in our society, trends which are not consistent with the rules of balanced development or with the circumstances of our national and pan-Arab confrontation with the state of aggression and the pressure of international conditions.

Government commitments to social services have increased in recent years to the point where the government can no longer cope with them. The costs of education, health care, communications, transport, subsidizing provisions, electricity, security and housing are continuously increasing. The government cannot provide these services adequately unless the citizens cooperate by changing their ways. They must cooperate with the government by changing their wasteful consumption methods.

The government is fully aware of the importance of balanced social planning which is equally important and complementary to economic planning. Therefore, the government will give special attention to the question of filling any gaps in our social development plans by reorganizing the government departments which sponsor and guide social development. Part of this program will be reorganizing local government on the basis of decentralization.

Jordan is true to its Arabism and spiritual and historical legacy. Therefore, the government will pursue the strict enlightened policy which stems from the heart of Jordan and is expressed and embodied by King Husayn's leadership. The government will strengthen Arab solidarity and close Arab ranks with all sincerity and determination.

The government will call upon the fraternal Arab states, in the name of Jordan, to create the atmosphere of fraternal dialog and understanding. Such an atmosphere will induce cooperation and coordination, strengthen mutual confidence and enable the Arab states to build their mature and realistic union in all walks of pan-Arab life; in the economic, military, development, cultural and political fields. The government will strive to tackle the Arab homeland's political problems with a positive and optimistic attitude. It will forgive any mistakes by our brothers as long as the basic pan-Arab principles are unaffected.

We believe the Arab states must work together within the framework of the Arab League and the wider framework of Arab brotherhood. We consider the growth of conflicting blocs harmful to the nation and its future. We believe the Arabs must concentrate on points of agreement rather than points of difference and there must be Arab accord instead of discord.

We also believe Jordan has an effective, positive role to play in the Arab arena. We believe we should strive to strengthen Arab solidarity, consolidate the one Arab front, spread the atmosphere of love, give enlightened ideas to the nation whenever possible and encourage enlightened ideas from other brothers.

This homeland, which was one of the first countries to embrace Islam, will continue to preserve its enlightened Muslim spirit, which is neither fanatic nor extremist. It will also continue to sponsor true and enlightened Islamic preaching. The government will continue to bolster the solidarity of the Muslim world.

Jordan will continue its international efforts with other justice and peace-loving countries to build an international system based on cooperation, justice, development, equality and respect for international pacts.

As you know, Jordanian policy in the Arab world is to build Arab intrinsic power in the material, moral, civil and military fields. With this intrinsic power, the Arab homeland will be able to resist the winds of division blowing on us now more than at any time before, especially after the divisionist plots which removed the Egyptian leadership from the arena of joint Arab action and trapped it in the snare of separatism and relinquishment of rights represented by the Camp David frameworks and their concommitants.

The government is loyal to the pledge this country has made to its nation, people and history to stand by the Palestinian people and their rights. It considers the confrontation with aggression as a comprehensive Arab responsibility of the frontline Arab forces and the supporting Arab forces; in other words the responsibility of the whole Arab nation. Therefore, the government supports the Baghdad and Tunis summit resolutions and is doing its best to implement and consolidate them on the path of joint action and building the intrinsic Arab power.

From this place we hail the steadfastness of our Arab brothers in the occupied territories and reassure them that Jordan will always support them in their struggle and steadfastness until they achieve salvation and freedom. Our path to victory and the achievement of just peace, which recognizes our rights, lies in good planning, putting enlightened people in the position of Arab leadership, consolidating the unified Arab front on all levels, strengthening our contacts and dialog with the world to explain our issues and exposing aggression internationally.

The government will sincerely work with our brothers in the PLO and the fraternal Arab states in the interest of the Palestinian people and in safeguarding their rights and their triumphant future on their land.

Our Arab army is the backbone of the homeland and the strong shield of the nation. The Jordanian Army is part of this homeland and its mission. It is the pride of our people and nation. Therefore, we will strive to maintain its strength and equip it. The government will preserve the traditions of this brave and patient army and respect its role and mission. We will continue to make the necessary large appropriations in the budget for strengthening this army.

Brothers and sisters: these are the main issues which the government has set as priorities for its work and efforts in the next phase. The government does not claim it can solve all problems during its term of office or implement all the long-term programs, which depend on the efforts of the state and the citizens. However, the government will do its best to give the homeland a real push forward within the general outlines I have set out and the courses I have defined.

SOVIET COMMERCIAL DELEGATION ARRIVES FOR TALKS 24 DEC

JN241312 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 24 Dec 79 JN

[Text] A delegation representing the Chamber of Commerce and Industry in the Soviet Union arrived in Amman today on a 1-week visit to Jordan. The delegation will hold talks with officials at the Ministry of Industry and Trade, the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities and the Jordanian Chambers of Commerce Union on increasing the bilateral trade volume.

Meets Industry Minister

JN270826 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 27 Dec 79 p 2 JN

[Excerpts] Amman--Yesterday, Minister of Industry and Trade Eng 'Ali an-Nusur and the delegation representing the Chamber of Commerce and Industry in the Soviet Union discussed Jordan's participation in the international industry and trade fairs, which are held in the Soviet Union, and the establishment of a permanent Soviet industry and trade fair in Jordan.

The industry and trade minister and the visiting delegation reviewed bilateral relations, particularly the economic and trade relations linking the two friendly states, and ways of bolstering and developing them in the future.

The industry and trade minister reviewed Jordan's development and progress in various economic fields. The minister then discussed areas of bilateral cooperation--especially in terms of trade exchange and the technical aid given Jordan by the Soviet Union--and vocational training in the field of energy, with specific regard to the exploitation of shale rock, which is found in great quantities in Jordan, for use in energy generation.

The members of the delegation representing the Chamber of Commerce and Industry in the Soviet Union were also briefed on the role played by the labor movement in Jordan in construction and economic development.

PRIME MINISTER AL-HUSS MEETS WITH PLO'S QADDUMI

NC261000 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 26 Dec 79 NC

[Text] As part of the preparations for Monday's meeting of the followup committee, under the chairmanship of Prime Minister al-Huss in the presence of Yasir 'Arafat, the prime minister met this morning with the head of the PLO Political Department, Faruq Qaddumi, and the PLO's permanent representative at the United Nations, Basil 'Aql.

After the 1-hour meeting, Qaddumi said that this meeting was for the purpose of consultation with the prime minister regarding the Arab followup committee in preparation for next Monday's meeting.

Asked about the Libyan-Palestinian dispute, Qaddumi said: We do not want a Libyan-Palestinian dispute. All we want is a continuation of our relations with Libya on condition that Palestinian legitimacy is not encroached upon.

He denied that a Palestinian official delegation has left for Libya.

VOP Report

NC261218 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1115 GMT 26 Dec 79 NC

[Text] Brother Abu Al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], head of the PLO Political Department, this morning met with Lebanese Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss. The meeting was attended by brother Basil 'Aql, the PLO representative at the UN Security Council. It has been learned that the two sides discussed the current situation on the local, Arab and international levels and developments in southern Lebanon, in particular, and the relations between the Lebanese authority and the PLO.

VOICE OF LEBANON REPORTS VARIOUS INCIDENTS

NC261747 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1715 GMT 26 Dec 79 NC

[Excerpts] At 1530 today Syrian and Palestinian forces in Beirut opened sniper fire on Fu'ad Shihab Bridge. The Internal Security Forces consequently suspended traffic across the bridge.

Our correspondents report intermittent artillery fire in south Lebanon against some UN Emergency Forces positions.

In northern Lebanon, daily explosions are reported in Tripoli. [passage omitted] An explosion took place in an ammunition dump belonging to the Syrian deterrent forces in northern Lebanon. Fires gutted the dump. Losses are unknown due to the secrecy shrouding the incident.

VOL REPORTS INTER-PALESTINIAN CLASH IN BEIRUT

NC270855 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0815 GMT 27 Dec 79 NC

[Excerpt] There was an armed clash at the Coca-Cola Circle in western Beirut last night between members of the Abu al-'Abbas wing of the Palestine Liberation Front and members of Fatah. The clash lasted over an hour. There were several casualties, including some dead, according to initial reports.

VOICE OF LEBANON REPORTS SHELLING IN SOUTH

NC261300 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 26 Dec 79 NC

[Text] Reports received from the south this morning spoke of limited and intermittent shelling and exchanges of automatic fire. A UN Netherlands post north of Sibrin was hit. The UN forces returned the fire. Some shells also hit a Fijian post and a Netherlands post near Al-Qulaylah. A total of 16 shells fell on that area.

VOP Report

NC261711 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 26 Dec 79 NC

[Text] According to reports received from southern Lebanon, the Zionist-isolationist alliance forces today continued to shell the national villages. They intentionally shelled UNIFIL positions in the area, hitting the Netherlands UN forces center north of Sibrin. The UN forces returned the fire. The shelling also included the Al-Qulaylah area, south of Tyre, where UN forces are deployed. Two positions belonging to the Fijian and Netherlands UN forces were hit by more than 20 shells.

Beirut Radio Account

NC270608 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 27 Dec 79 NC

[Text] While efforts and contacts continued at local, Arab and international levels with the aim of solving the problem of the south, Israel yesterday continued its aggression against the south. It shelled some southern villages. Some UN positions in the area of Al-'Ulliyah and Al-Qulaylah came under artillery fire from the border strip militia.

VOICE OF HOPE REPORTS 60 IRANIANS IN TYRE

NC270823 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 0600 GMT 27 Dec 79 NC

[Text] We have received confirmation of the presence of 60 Iranian volunteers in Tyre and the Burj ash-Sharmali. We therefore ask public opinion: Can anyone blame us if we shell and destroy the town of Tyre?

DAMASCUS REPORTS ATTACK ON AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE IN TEHRAN

JN231643 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 23 Dec 79 JN

[Text] Tehran--A number of unidentified gunmen attacked the residence of Syrian ambassador in Tehran Ibrahim al-Yunis at about 0200 today.

The SANA correspondent in Tehran says that the gunmen knocked at the door of the ambassador's residence. When a Revolution Guard--in charge of guarding the ambassador's residence--opened the door, the gunmen opened fire on him with Israeli-made Uzi machineguns. Iranian Revolution Guard reinforcements rushed to the scene and the gunmen escaped.

An abortive attempt was made 2 weeks agoagainst the Syrian general consul in Tehran when a group of gunmen knocked at the door of his residence, claiming to be Iranian Revolution Guards. However, this allegation was later established to be false.

AFP: 25 MORE IRANIANS ARRIVE IN DAMASCUS

NC221308 Paris AFP in English 1302 GMT 22 Dec 79 NC

[Text] Damascus, Dec 22 (AFP)--A further 25 Iranian volunteers arrived here today from Tehran on their way to south Lebanon where they hope to fight for the Palestinian cause.

Their arrival brought to 127 the number of pro-Khomeyni fighters against "Zionism and imperialism" at present waiting in a Palestinian training camp near here.

VOL REPORTS CLASHES ON LEBANESE, TURKISH BORDER

NC221750 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1715 GMT 22 Dec 79 NC

[Text] Reports from Syria this evening say that clashes have occurred on the Lebanese-Syrian border close to the Orontes River and on the Syrian-Turkish border near Antioch. [passage indistinct]

EGYPTIAN MAGAZINE REPORTS ARRESTS DURING EARLY DECEMBER

NC230728 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0653 GMT 23 Dec 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 23 December--The Syrian authorities arrested several Syrians during the first week of December on a charge of circulating leaflets against the ruling Syrian Ba'th and of throwing grenades at members of the defense squad.

Reporting this in Monday's edition, ROSE AL-YUSUF magazine says that those arrested include 30 Syrians directed and financed by Iraq. The Syrian Muslim Brotherhood had made contacts with Iraq to obtain material and military assistance since they have a common objective: overthrowing the 'Alawite regime.

VOICE OF LEBANON REPORTS ON CONDITIONS IN MAJOR CITIES

NC241847 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1715 GMT 24 Dec 79 NC

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon has obtained information about the current conditions in most of the major Syrian cities. Our correspondents have reported the following during the past 24 hours:

All military cars coming to Lebanon are being subjected to a thorough inspection by Syrian intelligence men at Al-Jawfah village along the Lebanese-Syrian border. The only exceptions are the cars of the special forces, which are inspected by members of the special forces.

The Voice of Lebanon correspondents further report that the city of (Tahi) is under the control of the intelligence men. They also report that there are many military forces in the native village of Maj Gen Mustafa Talas between Homs and Hamah. In Hamah, security men prevent [words indistinct] and the wearing of rubber boots and sunglasses because they fear actions against some institutions and citizens.

Military police and intelligence patrols are seen patrolling most of the major Syrian cities, particularly in places where Muslim Brotherhood members are concentrated.

AL-ASAD RECEIVES GREETINGS CABLE FROM DPFLP

JN241335 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 24 Dec 79 JN

[Text] Damascus--On the occasion of the convocation of the Ba'th Party's seventh regional congress, Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, Arab Socialist Ba'th Party secretary general, has received a greetingscable from the Democratic Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DPFLP] Central Committee.

The cable affirms that the convocation of the congress at this stage requires that the Arab nation's potentials be concentrated and that the ranks of the national and progressive elements be rallied, in order to abort the plots of the three Camp David partners.

The cable adds that the most cumbersome burden in forming the primary confrontation front with U.S. imperialism, Zionist occupation, As-Sadat's capitulatory course and all the reactionary elements and hirelings is being shouldered by Syria and the resistance, who are also shouldering the responsibility of bolstering and consolidating the Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front and making this front a firm and stable strategic alliance.

AS-SA'IQAH CABLES GREETINGS TO BA'TH CONGRESS

JN241314 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 24 Dec 79 JN

[Text] The Ba'th Party's seventh regional congress has received a greetings cable from the As-Sa'iqah Political Department. The cable says that the As-Sa'iqah forces, with their political and military cadres, are aware of the greatness of the responsibility shouldered by the comrade members of the congress. The cable says that in greeting the comrades in their congress, the As-Sa'iqah forces affirm that the plot will be foiled and that the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party banners will continue to wave as long as they are in loyal and sincere hands and as long as Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, remains the leader of this party's march.

LIBYA

LIBYA TO REDUCE CRUDE OIL OUTPUT IN 1980

NC241849 Paris AFP in English 0842 GMT 24 Dec 79 NC

[Text] Nicosia, Dec. 24, (AFP)--Libya will next year reduce its crude oil output by 400,000 to 1,700,000 barrels a day, the publication MIDDLE EAST ECONOMIC SURVEY said here today.

It quoted Libyan Oil Minister 'Izz ad-Din al-Mabruk, recalling that on Dec. 16 in Caracas he said his country would trim production, but gave no figure.

SAUDI FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES IN TRIPOLI 23 DEC

LD231510 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 23 Dec 79 LD

[Excerpt] Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal arrived in Tripoli at noon today on a visit to the Jamahiriyah. He was welcomed at the Tripoli international airport by Foreign Secretary Dr 'Ali at-Turayki and heads of departments at the Foreign Secretariat, as well as the Saudi and other Arab ambassadors to the Jamahiriyah.

Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal made a statement to a JANA correspondent in which he expressed hope that the visit will lead to the bolstering of fraternal and cooperation relations between the two fraternal countries for the realization of the ambitions of the Arab and Islamic nation. He said that during the visit there will be coordination between the two countries in all matters which serve the common interests of the Arab peoples in the Jamahiriyah and Saudi Arabia.

Holds Talks

LD240956 Tripoli JANA in English 0821 GMT 24 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, Dec 24 JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The Foreign Secretary, 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, and the Saudi Foreign Minister, Sa'ud al-Faysal, held a meeting last night at the Foreign Secretariat, Tripoli. They discussed bilateral relations and ways for reinforcing them, the situation in the Arab region, Arab-Afro cooperation and other matters of mutual concern. The meeting was attended by the general under secretary and the assistant under secretary for political affairs, the two heads of the Arab and Muslim departments of the Foreign Secretariat, members of the delegation accompanying Sa'ud al-Faysal and the Saudi ambassador accredited to the Jamahiriyah.

ALGERIAN, LIBYAN, PLO LEADERS REPORTEDLY TO MEET

JN211233 Doha QNA in Arabic 1210 GMT 21 Dec 79 JN

[Text] Damascus, 21 December--The QNA correspondent in Damascus has learned from informed sources that the mediation recently undertaken by Algeria and Syria to put an end to the Libyan-Palestinian disagreement has led to positive results in the interest of the Palestinian cause and Arab solidarity.

He has also learned that a tripartite summit meeting will be held in Algiers at the end of next week between Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid, Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and PLO Executive Committee chairman Yasir 'Arafat. The informed sources say that during this meeting a discussion will be held on ways to restore calm to Libyan-Palestinian relations as was the case before their aggravation at the outset of this month.

The correspondent has learned that Yasir 'Arafat will leave for Algeria at the head of a PLO delegation the middle of next week to attend this meeting.

It will be recalled that Syrian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Abd al-Halim Khaddam returned to Damascus from Libya last night following a brief visit, during which he conveyed a message from Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to Colonel al-Qadhdhafi.

JALLUD MEETS WITH PALESTINIAN LEADERS 26 DEC

LD261914 Tripoli JANA in English 1812 GMT 26 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, Dec 26, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud today met Mr. Ahmad Jibril, secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command; Dr. George Habash, secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, Dr. Samir Qushah, secretary general of the Palestine Popular Struggle Front, and Mr. Majid Hassan, secretary of the As-Sa'iqah organisation in Lebanon.

The meeting was attended by Mr. 'Ali Balkhair, secretary of people congresses affairs at the General People's Congress.

Jibril Arrival Statement

LD250956 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 25 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli--Brother Ahmad Jibril, general secretary of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, arrived in Tripoli last night for a visit to Libya. The official responsible for Palestinian affairs of the Arab Liaison Office welcomed Jibril at the airport.

Ahmad Jibril made a statement to a JANA correspondent in which he praised the positions of the Great 1 September Revolution on the struggle of the Palestinian people to regain their usurped land. He said that the 1 September Revolution, under the leadership of the brother colonel constituted a hard obstacle in the face of the plotters against the Arab cause.

Jibril added in his statement that all Arab peoples from the Atlantic to the Arabian Gulf are partners in the destiny of our nation and that the size of the participation of the national and patriotic regions in this revolution should be more general and more comprehensive in order to face the plots being hatched by Arab reaction and imperialism against the Arab people.

Brother Jibril stressed that the Arab struggle is the only path to liberate the usurped land.

JANA REPORT SAYS U.S. VESSELS NEAR BAHRAIN

LD261800 Tripoli JANA in English 1635 GMT 26 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Dec. JANA--Reports from the Arabian Gulf say several U.S. naval vessels are now believed to be in the vicinity of Bahrain's shores. Observers view this suspect military move as further escalation of the U.S. military plan which threatens the occupation of oil sources in the region.

The observers say the fabricated U.S.-Iranian crisis over the American hostages in Tehran is no more than a desperate attempt to provide the American administration with an excuse for implementing its aggressive plan.

JOINT SOVIET-LIBYAN COMMITTEE SESSION HELD

LD241530 Tripoli JANA in English 1446 GMT 24 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, Dec 24, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The General People's Committee Secretary for Electricity Engineer Jum'ah al-Arbash and the Vice President of the Soviet State Committee for External Economic Relations Mr Mordvinov today initialled the fifth session of talks of the joint Libyan Arab-Soviet committee for economic, technical, and scientific cooperation.

The signing ceremony was attended by the Libyan Arab and Soviet delegations and the Soviet ambassador to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Mr al-Arbash also delivered a speech in which he lauded the spirit of cooperation which prevailed during the committee's meeting, which succeeded in establishing new horizons for cooperation and bolstering cooperation between the two countries in various (?fields).

Mr Mordvinov also praised relations which bind the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the Soviet Union, and the spirit of understanding which prevailed during the meeting. He also expressed satisfaction for the results achieved by the committee which will further bolster bilateral cooperation.

He said the committee's meeting has opened new horizons for cooperation between the countries and the possibilities of further developing friendly relations.

JALLUD ADDRESSES EUROPEAN REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEES MEETING

LD261436 Tripoli JANA in English 1407 GMT 26 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, Dec 26, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud yesterday evening attended the first conference of revolutionary committees of Europe. The conference had been inaugurated earlier in the morning in the Nasr ad-Din Gummi Hall in Tripoli.

Staff Major Jallud delivered a speech during his attendance in which he stressed the importance of the conference. He said not only was it important for the advancement of scientific education but also that the conference acted as a means of sharply defining the functions of revolutionary forces. He said the revolution is no mere joy party but a serious full-time undertaking.

He added that the Great 1 September Revolution had demolished the myth of omnipotence surrounding the great powers. It had decided to make itself a force to be reckoned with. Staff Major Jallud added: "We will do away with materialist philosophies, because peoples are not measured by their material capacities." He also said that the 1969 revolution had been embarked upon as a means for achieving the people's revolution. This, in turn, had resulted in the establishment of people's authority which was acknowledged by the Libyan Arab people in Sabhah.

He likened the revolution to a surgical operation of society which only the most ardent and faithful could undertake.

He said the revolution is being constantly escalated and in need of ardent believers. He quoted Koranic verse in which God has said no matter how small the forces of goodness are, they will finally prevail even over the overwhelming forces of evil.

He stressed the necessity of guidance in preparing revolutionary forces. He said that in the early march of Islam, only a few people were able to change the course of history in Asia and Africa because they had associated the creed of Islam to life. Islam is a constant struggle for freedom and a way of life. So, he added, is the revolution.

Staff Major Jallud said the true revolutionary is one whose initial struggle commences with himself. He who conquers himself can later convince others. The revolution depends on honesty wherever man prevails. He said in the battles awaiting us, only those who are true believers can remain steadfast. It is therefore for this reason, he added, that we should prepare ourselves as revolutionaries to carry out our responsibilities.

MAURITANIA

WITHDRAWAL OF LAST MOROCCAN FORCES REPORTED

LD262330 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 26 Dec 79 LD

[Text] The Mauritanian news agency reports this evening that the Moroccan forces stationed in Bir Mogrein today left Mauritanian territory, thus bringing to an end the Moroccan military presence in Mauritania.

MOROCCO

BOUCETTA, ROMANIA'S ANDREI SIGN COOPERATION AGREEMENTS

LD241258 Rabat MAP in English 1204 GMT 24 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Rabat, Dec 24 (MAP)--The works of the Morocco-Romanian joint commission ended here Saturday with a ceremony presided by M'hamed Boucetta and Stefan Andrei, Moroccan and Romanian foreign affairs ministers. During the ceremony the two prime ministers signed the minutes elaborated by the commission and two accords of cooperation.

The minutes forecast Romanian participation in the implementation of important Morocco projects, especially construction of dams and ports.

As to the two accords signed, the first deals with technical cooperation in the field of sanitary veterinary, the second deals with marine navigation.

KNESSET STRIKES JERUSALEM MOTION OFF AGENDA

TA261056 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 26 Dec 79 TA

[Text] By a large majority a short while ago the Knesset struck off its agenda a motion drafted by MK Moshe Shamir that the government immediately extend Israeli law to the territories.

Prime Minister Menahem Begin said Shamir's proposal was intended to lead to a cancellation of the peace treaty and Israel is not going to violate this treaty. Mr Begin mentioned that the authority to decide on the date of applying the Israeli law is in the government's hands. However, the government has decided not to apply the law as long as the peace negotiations continue. He further said Israel has never recognized Judaea, Samaria and Gaza as occupied territories and whoever had been there prior to the Six Day War had been there by force and not by right. The prime minister added that Jerusalem is one city, the capital of Israel and indivisible. He said this in reaction to the Hatehiya [Revival] Movement's statement demanding that he make such an announcement [on Jerusalem's status] before leaving for the Aswan talks.

Our correspondent notes that the Alinement members were divided in the vote: Some of them supported the government's position, others abstained and Shim'on Peres supported the proposal to transfer the issue to a Knesset committee for discussion.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS, SECURITY COMMITTEE MEETS WITH BEGIN

TA261227 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 26 Dec 79 TA

[Text] I will be able to answer your questions in greater detail after I return from Aswan, the prime minister told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee members who convened this morning to listen to and express political assessments. Our correspondent in the Knesset Razi Barqa'i says most of the session was dedicated to the remarks of the Knesset members themselves and Mr Begin, as mentioned above, will answer and sum up the discussion after his return from Egypt. [begin recording]

[Barqa'i] The situation in Iran and Saudi Arabia, the U.S. arms shipments to the Middle East and, of course, the question of relations with Egypt, were some of the subjects on the agenda today and the prime minister, as noted, listened to remarks and gave short replies. This was the first discussion the committee has held with Mr Begin for a long time and the committee members expressed their fear about events in the Arab world. The head of the committee, Moshe Arens, told us afterwards:

[Arens] I am of the opinion that the upheavals in the Middle East--if you mean events in Iran and in Saudi Arabia--for us this is no novelty. It is the Americans who have food for thought here. They thought the Middle East was a stable area, that the shah would reign in Iran for who knows how long; they hope that King Khalid will be sitting there with his treasures in the desert until the next century. However, we have lived in the region for 100 years in the modern era. We know this is an unstable area, that there are totalitarian and corrupt regimes here, upheavals almost yearly and assassination attempts on the rulers' lives. The kind of demonstrations in Tehran we see on the television screens today has already been seen in other regional capitals.

[Barqa'i] Harsh criticism at what he calls the complacency of the government was leveled by former Minister Me'ir 'Amit. Everything around us is on fire, he said, and we are dealing with the minor subjects.

['Amit] I said there should be a comprehensive assessment of the situation, I said that with the present government's foreign policy we cannot create that solid, basic infrastructure we need. I was very surprised that a foreign minister has not been appointed for such a long time in such a stormy period. I also mentioned a few subjects I would not want to and cannot elaborate on.

[Barqa'i] According to the replies you received from the prime minister in the committee meeting, do you think the government is functioning well on these subjects?

['Amit] No.

[Barqa'i] And regarding the normalization with Egypt, there has also been criticism by the opposition on the pace of the development of relations and the recent Egyptian proposals. Professor Arens:

[Arens] I assume that this period, the process of normalization and the tightening of relations between Israel and Egypt, will be just like tooth pulling. To my regret I do not see-I must add that I had not expected this from the beginning either--great enthusiasm in Egypt to hug us and to develop tight relations with us. For our part, once we have paid a very large sum for the ticket, we should do everything to reach the final goal, to ultimately reach good, firm relations between Egypt and ourselves.

[Barqa'i] A political debate with the prime minister--no earth-shaking news. Begin told the participants that when he returns from Egypt he will be able to elaborate more. [end recording]

WEIZMAN INTERVIEWED PRIOR TO DEPARTURE FOR U.S.

TA242008 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 24 Dec 79 TA

[Interview with Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman by TV military correspondent 'Amiram Nir on 24 December--place not given; videotaped]

[Text] [Question] Mr Defense Minister, do you believe that it will be possible for Israel to get $3.4 billion in American aid--almost double the existing aid?

[Answer] No. I don't think so. But I would not be traveling if I did not think that something could be improved. I think and believe that it is possible to persuade a closure of the gap between our aspirations and the present U.S. Government view.

[Question] Reports are coming from Washington about American willingness to increase the aid to $2.2 billion at most. Do you believe that considering the predicament of the United States--its monetary situation, its inflation--it will be possible to go higher?

[Answer] Look, if it is $2.2 billion, I will be very happy, but I have no doubt that among the problems in the United States--and we have to understand this--are domestic problems of inflation, unemployment and industrial problems. On the other hand, we are in a partnership with the United States. So, we certainly have to pay attention to what is happening in the United States, but we also have to pay attention to the U.S. position in the world and Israel's importance in the Middle East.

[Question] Do you intend to enter into a dialog with your American colleagues on the issues of U.S. military aid to Saudi Arabia and Egypt as well? Do you intend to express reservations about these deals?

[Answer] Look, I do not intend to, but you must always be prepared that such things will be raised. I am convinced that I will meet with the U.S. secretary of state and the secretary of defense and other issues will be raised for an exchange of ideas, perhaps even for decision, ideas which are not necessarily tied directly to problems of budget or money.

[Question] Will you express Israeli reservations about some of the U.S. aid to Arab countries?

[Answer] There will certainly be reservations with respect to Saudi Arabia. The Egyptian issue is much more complex because today we are at peace with the Egyptians and there is no doubt that there are problems here. All of a sudden we may find ourselves facing an Egyptian Army that is larger than it has ever been before. This is a problem. I do not intend to raise the issue, but if the issue is raised I will certainly relate to it in the spirit of what was agreed in the Cabinet.

[Question] Mr Weizman, in this connection there have recently been several reservations both in the government and in the public about the rate of or willingness toward normalization on the part of Egypt.

[Answer] Excuse me for interrupting you here. Some of us--and in part rightly--are very concerned about how the normalization will work. In my assessment, there is a lack of appreciation of the fact that if you had asked yourself 2 years ago whether embassies would be established in Cairo and Tel Aviv when we reach the Ra's Muhammad-Al-'Arish line, where we have to stay for 2 and 1/4 years until we reach the international line--I would have had strong doubts. So I think that the importance of the establishment of an embassy is the main issue and not how many people will be in the embassy. It is true that there are some who are more skeptical and pessimistic and there are those who are more optimistic. Therefore, there has to be a balance between those who see all white and those who see all black. Let us see life as being gray. Black and white have single shades. Gray has several shades. So if the beginning of the normalization is not totally white, but only gray, let us not paint it blacker than it is.

JOINT MILITARY COMMITTEE PLANS NEXT STAGE OF WITHDRAWAL

TA241736 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 24 Dec 79 TA

[Text] The joint Egyptian-Israeli military committee meeting in Beersheba today concluded the procedures for the return of Area Five in Sinai, the area controlling the Jidi and Mitla passes. After the area is returned, on 25 January, the IDF forces will remain deployed on the Al-'Arish-Ra's Muhammad line.

The Egyptian delegation chairman said that, among other things, it was agreed that Egyptian preparation groups will be permitted to enter the area prior to its handover. The Israeli delegation chairman, Brig Gen Dov Si'on, said that Israeli tourism at Saint Catherine's was also discussed at the meeting, as well as continuation of searches for missing bodies in Sinai. The searches are to take place at the end of January.

The committee will meet again at Al-'Arish in 2 weeks time.

Umm Khushayb Station Razed

TA251643 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 25 Dec 79 TA

[Text] The blowing up and razing of the Israeli early warning station at Umm Khushayb was completed this morning with the last in a series of explosions which lasted for more than a week and which had been planned for several months.

Our military correspondent Gad Becker reported from Sinai by telephone:

[Begin Becker recording] The installations of the Israeli early warning station at Umm Khushayb turned into dust or were completely demolished. Today the last explosions were completed, which left the reinforced site in smithereens. Today also the bunker was demolished which, during the Yom Kippur War, served as the war room of the Southern Command, from which the battles were supervised. OC Southern Command Dan Shomron, who came to supervise the blow-up, was also at Umm Khushayb this morning. Major General Shomron and a number of engineering corps officers were the last to pass through the corridors of the installation, a few minutes before its demolition. [end recording]

BEGIN MEETS NRP REQUEST ON LAND SURVEY TEAM

TA241731 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 24 Dec 79 TA

[Text] The prime minister will act toward setting up a joint team on behalf of the defense establishment, the Agriculture Ministry and the state attorney's office. The team will prepare shortly a complete survey of government land in Judaea and Samaria. This was reported by Mr Begin at a meeting with Minister Zvulun Hammer, Knesset Members Ben-Me'ir and Druckman and the government legal advisor.

Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer says the prime minister responded to the request of NRP members to expedite the execution of work in Judaea and Samaria settlements.

COURT CONVICTS UN OFFICER OF HOSTILE ACTIVITY

TA241120 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 24 Dec 79 TA

[Text] The Jerusalem District Court has convicted UN Col Alfred Gum of having had contacts with a foreign agent, of assisting the enemy and of illegally transporting arms. Colonel Bum was detained about 6 months ago on suspicion of having smuggled arms and ammunition from Lebanon. Our correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that among the documents in Bum's possession was a letter from Ibrahim 'Abd al-'Aziz, alias Abu Safwat, who was a central Fatah figure murdered in Cyprus about 2 weeks ago.

DAVAR on Decision

TA250739 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 25 Dec 79 p 1 TA

[By Daniyel Bloch]

[Excerpt] Among the reasons for Israel's decision to expel the Nigerian officer are the fear that commercial relations with Nigeria would be harmed and the hope for improved relations between the two countries.

Israeli companies now have large business interests in Nigeria and the government wanted to avoid harming these ties. Nigeria also hinted to Israel in various ways that if the Nigerian officer was released there could be a significant improvement in relations between the two countries in the near future. Thus, for example, the Foreign Ministry recently received a letter from the Nigerian journalists association stating that if the officer was released the association would promote the establishment of diplomatic relations between Israel and Nigeria. Similar appeals have also been submitted via the Histadrut.

MILITARY AUTHORITIES BAN ACTIVITY OF WEST BANK COMMITTEE

TA250608 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 25 Dec 79 TA

[Text] The military authorities will no longer allow the members of the Judaea and Samaria National Guidance Committee to hold meetings. The military governors informed the committee members that they have to ask permission before they can hold meetings. The National Guidance Committee is the supreme institution of Judaea and Samaria public personalities and it was this institution that led public activity in connection with the Bassam ash-Shak'ah affair. It is influenced by the communists in the terrorist organizations belonging to the rejectionist front.

EAST JERUSALEM PAPERS THREATEN CLOSURE

TA250742 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 25 Dec 79 p 8 TA

[Text] Two of East Jerusalem's papers, AL-FAJR and ASH-SHA'B, are considering closing down in protest against what they have termed clear discrimination between them and the third East Jerusalem daily, AL-QUDS. According to AL-FAJR and ASH-SHA'B, the censors prevented them from publishing reports carried on the radio and television and which later appeared in AL-QUDS.

The HA'ARETZ correspondent points out that AL-QUDS also has its differences with the military censors, who have banned reports and articles from the paper. AL-FAJR and ASH-SHA'B are regarded as being close to the central PLO line, which is represented by Fatah while AL-QUDS is regarded as being close to the Kingdom of Jordan.

JORDAN RENEWS AID TO JUDAEA, SAMARIA MUNICIPALITIES

TA261242 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 26 Dec 79 TA

[Text] Jordan has started offering the Judaea and Samaria municipalities loans and grants from Muslim funds via the Muslim bank in Amman. Our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari reports that this offer is compatible with the renewed activity of the Muslim brothers in Judaea and Samaria, activity aimed at curbing the leftist tendencies of the mayors in the territories and to guide public opinion along a path of religious orthodoxy.

Qalqilyah's mayor supports the idea that all mayors submit aid proposals to Jordan jointly. Our correspondent has learned that this suggestion has been formulated by the National Guidance Committee of the Judaea and Samaria public figures and it contradicts the position of Jordan and the PLO that rules out united local leadership in the territories. Nevertheless, Qalqilyah Mayor Hajj Amin an-Nasir has announced he will not wait for the realization of the idea and, on the first opportunity will leave for Amman to submit his municipality's aid request.

GAZA CITRUS GROWERS TO STOP MARKETING TO ARAB COUNTRIES

TA231900 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 23 Dec 79 TA

[Text] The Gaza Strip citrus growers have decided to stop exports to Arab countries to protest Jordan's refusal to allow the citrus trucks to go through its territory. Over the past few days the Jordanians have turned back from the Jordan bridges trucks loaded with citrus fruit owned by Gaza Strip residents. In contrast, they allow regular traffic of trucks owned by Judaea and Samaria residents. This act is probably intended to guarantee full employment to the Judaea and Samaria residents at the expense of the Gaza Strip inhabitants.

AFGHANISTAN

KABUL NOTES PRAVDA ARTICLE ON SOVIET-AFGHAN RELATIONS

LD232115 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 23 Dec 79 LD

[Text] PRAVDA, the organ of the CPSU Central Committee, in an important article today rejects the lies of the enemies of the USSR and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. The article explains that relations between the two countries are based on good neighborliness, noninterference in one another's affairs and mutual [word indistinct] equality and cooperation.

The PRAVDA article brings into the open the baseless accusations of Western propaganda, regarding the friendship between the USSR and Afghanistan by writing: These (?lies) are for unwarranted purposes and are in accordance with those political aims which are dangerous to the people of Afghanistan and the peace of the region. The cooperation between the DRA and the Soviet Union, which is daily extending to the benefit of the people of both countries, is a (?relation) of friendship and brotherhood which is making the enemies of the people of Afghanistan tremble, enemies who are trying to prepare the grounds for meddling in the internal affairs of Afghanistan.

PRAVDA writes: A publication in Washington had written that it is an empty guess to think that imperialism (?will adhere to the slogan of noninterference in Afghanistan). Imperialist agents and their leftwing type allies are busy in foreign bases beyond the borders of Afghanistan. PRAVDA asserts that these destructive activities against Afghanistan are the obvious interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan by U.S. imperialism and other imperialist countries.

SOVIET COMMUNICATIONS MINISTER ARRIVES IN KABUL

LD241640 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 24 Dec 79 LD

[Text] The USSR minister of communications, His Excellency Nikolay Vladimirovich Talyzin, arrived in Kabul this evening leading a delegation on a friendly and official visit at the invitation of Engineer Zarif, minister of communications of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

During his stay his excellency the USSR minister of communications will hold talks with the competent Afghan authorities on topics of interest and the countries' [word indistinct] and will see the country's communications establishments.

His Excellency Dzhurabekov, minister of water resources in the republic of Uzbekistan in the USSR, also arrived at the head of a delegation this evening in Kabul, at the invitation of the deputy minister of water and power, Engineer (Saleh).

The minister of water resources of the Uzbek Republic, during his stay in Afghanistan, will visit those projects which are being built with the economic and technical cooperation of the Soviet Union, and will hold talks with the competent authorities.

BANGLADESH

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BEGINS SESSION 31 JANUARY

BK270934 Dacca Overseas Service in English 0445 GMT 27 Dec 79 BK

[Text] The president has summoned the National Assembly [Sangsad] to meet on the 31st of next month. An official announcement said in Dacca yesterday the Sangsad will meet in Dacca.

Welcoming the decision of the president to summon the parliament, the speaker of the Sangsad, Mirza Ghulam Hafiz, told newsmen yesterday evening that the decision was consistent with the desire of the people.

INDIA

BANGLADESH RIFLES CONTINUE FIRING ON BORDER

BK250756 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 25 Dec 79 BK

[Text] Bangladesh Rifles have continued their unprovoked and intermittent firing across the border at Belonia in South Tripura district. A senior BSF [Border Security Force] officer told the AIR [All India Radio] Agartala correspondent this morning that Bangladesh Rifles fired 30 rounds for 1 hour soon after midnight last night. BSF jawans [soldiers] on duty returned the fire in self defense. There was, however, no casualty on the Indian side.

GOVERNMENT LIFTS SANCTIONS ON TRADE WITH RHODESIA

BK261249 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 26 Dec 79 BK

[Text] The government of India has decided to discontinue the ban on the economic relations with Zimbabwe-Rhodesia. An official statement in New Delhi said that specific steps to implement this decision will be taken soon with a view to resuming trade with that country. The decision follows the UN Security Council's resolution recommending lifting of sanctions against Rhodesia in the wake of the agreement reached at the London conference.

COMMUNIST PARTY LEADER GUPTA GIVES ELECTION SPEECH

BK250308 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 24 Dec 79 BK

[Election broadcast by Communist Party of India leader Bhupesh Gupta--recorded]

[Summary] Brothers and sisters: This election is taking place in an unprecedented economic and political crisis. We have no illusion that this election will bring solution to the problems facing our people or even end the crisis and the uncertainities. What the country direly needs is an end to the rule of capital and the establishment of a radically different government based on the unity of the national democratic forces who are largely committed to fight imperialism, neocolonialism monopoly capital, landlordism and reaction.

It is sad that both the Janata Party and the Congress-I are again trying to capture power and bring miseries to the people. With all our might we must prevent the return to power of these forces. This is the most crucial immediate task before us in the coming election. "In her desperate bid for power,Indira Gandhi has loudly raised the slogan of a strong and stable government. But she wants stability and strength for perpetuating the monopoly of bourgeois power, for exploitation and plunder, and exploiting profits and for suppressing the struggles of the working people. And she wants stability and strength to build her personal authoritarian power and to promote her dynastic ambition."

Our party stands for stability and strength. We are for fighting the imperialists, monopolists and other exploiters and oppressors and for bettering the lot of the toiling masses. We are for stability and strength, democracy and social justice.

During Mrs Gandhi's period, a major portion of the capital was spent for the big industries and most of the collaboration agreements were signed with the Western powers, involving a heavy drain of our resources, undermining our own self-reliance. This disgraceful state of affairs continued also under the Janata rule. She is even now justifying the emergency which has put more than 100,000 people behind bars. The Janata government followed the footsteps of its predecessors. The life and experience of our people amply show that no bourgeois party or a combination of such parties committed to the preservation of the present socioeconomic order can bring the nation's progress.

We have, therefore, in our party's election manifesto put before the nation a minimum program. The program, we venture to say, gives expression to the hopes and aspirations of our people. We are for the arrest of rising prices of essential commodities, end of unemployment, vigorous implementation of land ceiling and other land reform, full protection to the untouchables and other weaker sections, as well as the Muslim and other minorities. Women must be given the fullest legal guarantees and equal pay for equal work. Working people must be guaranteed their democratic rights.

"It is a matter of profound satisfaction that in this election battle the CPI [Communist Party of India], CPI-M [Communist Party of India-Marxist] and other left parties have closed their ranks and are fighting shoulder to shoulder as comrades in arm. This is a remarkable political gain."

"We earnestly appeal to our great people to elect the candidates of the Communist Party of India and also other left and democratic candidates. They are our common friends." "May I end by reiterating that the Communist Party of India will continue to strive and struggle for the establishment of socialism in our great land."

MRS GANDHI: SANJAY HAS NO INTEREST IN BECOMING PREMIER

BK241618 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 24 Dec 79 BK

[Text] The Congress-I president, Mrs Indira Gandhi, has denied that her son, Mr Sanjay Gandhi, is contesting the polls to become prime minister. In a speech at Chandigarh today she said Mr Gandhi was never interested in politics. He has been forced into it by the Janata government because of their onslaught on him.

Mrs Gandhi said the need of the hour is to restore economic and political stability in the country and its prestige which she claims only her party can do.

A PTI report says police cane-charged a group of persons shouting (?anti-reservation) slogans before Mrs Gandhi's arrival.

MRS GANDHI CRITICIZES JANATA, LOK DAL IN ELECTION ADDRESS

BK251615 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1508 GMT 25 Dec 79 BK

[Election broadcast by Congress-I party president, Mrs Indira Gandhi--recorded]

[Text] Friends: I spoke to you a few days ago. You have also heard the views of others. The Janata Party has made wild claims. Its leaders have asserted that they contained prices. What is your personal experience? Do you recall Mr Desai's repeated promises to bring down prices in a fixed period? Can the Janata Party escape responsibility? Whether any consumer item which has not been caught up in sharply rising spiral? [sentence as heard]

Even during these past 4 days, prices have gone up by 2 and a half percent. The huge stocks the Congress government left and two successive good harvests had assured abundance of green. But where is it? It has not reached the millions of hungry people in the drought-affected areas. Similarly, there is no real shortage of other essential commodities. Is it not proof of total mismanagement and utter indifference of the two governments [of the Janata Party and the Lok Dal] toward plight of the common man?

The Janata Party announces that it will raise the status of India internationally. But it alone is responsible for a sharp decline of India's image. We have lost credibility in the comity of nations. Developing countries have ceased to look to us for initiative or leadership. Global issues are being resolved in ways which ignore our interests.

The Janata Party as well as the Lok Dal talk loudly about democracy and individual freedom. The disolution of the UP [Uttar Pradesh] assembly, the crushing of those who oppose, the constant interference with the process of law and gross abuse of official machinery for party ends are a few instances of their undemocratic functioning. Life itself is threatened, innocent people have been and are being fired upon time and again. Even magistrates and judges were obliged to march the streets of Delhi to seek justice.

Mr Jagjivan Ram now promises to redress the miseries of harijans [untouchables]. Where was he when terrible atrocities were perpetuated on them in Basti [in Madhya Pradesh] and other parts of India? In spite of their [harijans] continuous harrassment, dispossession of land, humilitation and social injustice, he continued in the Janata government. What prevented him from raising his words? Was it not the lure of office and lack of courage because of the threatening attitude of the RSS [Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh] and Jan Sangh who had previously deprived him of premiership?

Mr Charan Singh and his Lok Dal, on the other hand, are creating confrontation between the castes, between city and village, between agriculture and industry and many other areas. In Indian circumstances, agriculture and industry have to be interdependent. The slackening of industrial growth immediately affects agriculture, depriving it of essential inputs like fertilizer, electricity, tractors etc. Similarly, a shortfall in agriculture production affects industry causing shortages of raw materials. The Lok Dal also promises to give higher prices for agricultural produce. What has prevented them from doing so all this time? The farmer has been forced to sell at distressed prices.

It is evident that government measures only serve narrow sectional interests. Left-oriented parties talk of a third force. This is wishful thinking. In effect, apart from mild criticism, they have done nothing to combat reactionary forces, communalism and castism.

The story of the Janata Party is one of broken promises and pledges. How could any one believe them now? When he handed over the government to the Janata Party, there was political stability, a sound economy and harmony in the society. Today in the absence of any major national or international crisis, they have failed miserably on all fronts. In 1977 we were rated the eighth most industrialized country. Within just 30 months we are relegated to 20th position in the world. The Janata Party now claims greater unity, but the contradictions within it continue: Congress-O, Swatantrites, socialists and above all the dominance of the Jan Sangh and the RSS.

Only the imminence of the election has given an outer appearance of cohesion. For the Jan Sangh desperately needs support of a harijan leader [Jagjivan Ram] to mask its attitude toward minorities, the weaker and backward sections. Our party promises to take positive measures to rebuild our democratic socialist and secular structure, to bring about order and stability and take the country forward toward progress and prosperity.

We have shouldered heavy burdens with faith in the Indian people, with courage and self-confidence. We did not allow the many challenges of war and economic crisis to overpower us, but use them as levers to strengthen the nation.

I have pride in the Indian heritage, in our religion and in our culture. Yet we cannot pursue these without fighting obscurantism. In any narrowing of the Indian personality and vision, the issue is not of persons or even parties, but of the country. My desire is not for power but to provide opportunity to the people of India, to our scientists and engineers, our professionals and farmers and workers and above all to young people and to those who because of poverty or class or caste discrimination have been underprivileged. To enable them to do great deeds, to help in giving new direction for a renewal of the Indian spirit.

My singleness of purpose has been to make India strong and great, capable of solving her many-faced problems, of resisting any foreign interference and developing her own individuality, an India where there is justice and equality for all.

This election is crucial. I appeal to you all to support our efforts. Vote for the hand [election symbol of her party]; vote Congres-I.

On this Christmas Day, I wish my Christian brothers and sisters a merry christmas and to you all a Happy New Year. Jai Hind. [Hail India].

MEDGHALAYA GOVERNOR PROMULGATES DETENTION ORDINANCE

BK261645 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 26 Dec 79 BK

[Text] The Meghalaya governor, Mr L.P. Singh, today promulgated an ordinance empowering the state government to detain any person without trial for 6 months with the object of maintaining internal security in the state.

Reporting this, UNI [United News of India] says it is known as the Meghalaya Preventive Detention Ordinance. According to an official release, it has been promulgated to meet the requirement of the present law and order situation in the state and to maintain public order. The ordinance also provides for review of the cases of all persons detained under it by an advisory board. The 3-member advisory board will be headed by a sitting judge of the high court.

PAKISTAN

HAQ RETURNS FROM SAUDI ARABIA, COMMENTS ON VISIT

BK261643 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 26 Dec 79 BK

[Text] President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said that he held very useful talks with Saudi Arabia's King Khalid and Crown Prince Fahd on bilateral relations, the international situation and all matters concerning the Islamic world, especially on affairs related to unity of the Islamic world. He was talking to newsmen in Islamabad this evening on his return home from a 2-day visit to Saudi Arabia.

He disclosed that views were exchanged on the Middle East situation and all other matters of mutual interest. Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq said he held detailed talks with the crown prince on how to further consolidate the unity and solidarity of the Islamic world. Both presented their viewpoints and there was complete unanimity between them.

The president described Pakistan-Saudi Arabia relations as very close and exemplary and said: They will continue to be so in future as well and we are proud of these relations. He said: Saudi Arabia has always expressed oneness with Pakistan and we will always be grateful to them for this.

The president said during his visit at the invitation of the Saudi Government, he once again was honored by visiting Sharif [the Great Mosque] and performing religious rites at Mecca. With the grace and mercy of God no harm has been done to baitullah [place where the holy stone is kept]. However work is being done with speed to repair slight damage to the Great Mosque and will be completed soon.

The president said the Saudi authorities took very commendable action against the deviators, for which they deserve hearty congratulations and commendations.

In reply to a question, he said he believes that as a custodian of the Great Mosque, King Khalid will continue to discharge his responsibility admirably. However, it is his firm conviction as well as that of all Muslims, that God almighty himself has taken responsibility for the safety of these holy places.

In reply to another question, the president said the Haram Sharif incident was caused by religious fanatics. The president said that he had taken with him a high-powered delegation to demonstrate Pakistan's sentiments of love and respect for Haram Sharif and to congratulate King Khalid on clearing of the holy precinct of God.

The president and his entourage this morning visited Taif before flying home, and offered prayers at Taif cemetery for those who lost their lives in the PIA plane crash. Addressing Pakistan defense personnel and Pakistanis serving in Taif, who had assembled outside the cemetery, the president said he had personally come to thank the amir of Taif, Saudi defense personnel and other agencies for their help in locating the site of accident and the burial of the victims. He said the Pakistan defense personnel also played a commendable part in this task for which the country is grateful. The amir of Taif, (Shaykh Mohammad ibn Khurrab) and other Saudi personalities welcomed the president and his entourage at Taif airport and later saw them off.

No Discussion of U.S.-Iran Issue

BK261734 Hong Kong AFP in English 1612 GMT 26 Dec 79 BK

[Text] Islamabad, 26 Dec (AFP)--President Mohammad Ziaul Haq, who returned here today after a three-day visit to Saudi Arabia, described his talks with Saudi King Khalid and Crown Prince Fahd as "very useful." Gen. Zia said he had gone to congratulate King Khalid on the recapture of the Grand Mosque in Mecca, Islam's holiest shrine, from "religious fanatics." He ruled out any possibility of foreign aid behind the Nov 20 incident.

Stressing that there was complete unanimity of opinion between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia, Gen. Zia said that besides mutual relations his talks had covered overall Moslem unity, adding that another Islamic summit was possible in the near future.

On the visit of presidential Foreign Affairs Advisor Agha Shahi to Tehran early today, Gen. Zia said it has been planned earlier at the invitation of Iranian Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh. He added that he had not discussed Iranian-U.S. relations with Saudi leaders, stating that the issue of the hostages was an Iranian "internal matter."

AUTHORITIES RELEASE SEVEN PARTY LEADERS

BK231037 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 23 Dec 79 BK

[Text] The martial law authorities have withdrawn detention orders against Sheikh Mohammad Rashid, Sheikh Rafiq Ahmad, Mr (Qizil Nizami), Mr Farooq Leghari [of the Pakistan People's Party], Begum (Nazra Khan Aswani). Begum Rahana Sarwar and (Nusrat Parveen). They were arrested under martial law order No 12.

KARACHI REPORTS 1 DEAD IN CLASH BETWEEN SECTS IN SHAHDRA

BK251723 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 25 Dec 79 BK

[Text] An official announcement in Lahore this evening said that there was a clash between two sects early this morning in Aziz colony, Shahdra. Some people were stabbed and fire arms were used as a result of which one person succumbed to injuries and four others were injured. The situation was brought under control by the police and local elders. Traffic remained suspended for some time. However, police intervened and restored it.

A joint inquiry into the incident has been ordered by the government.